

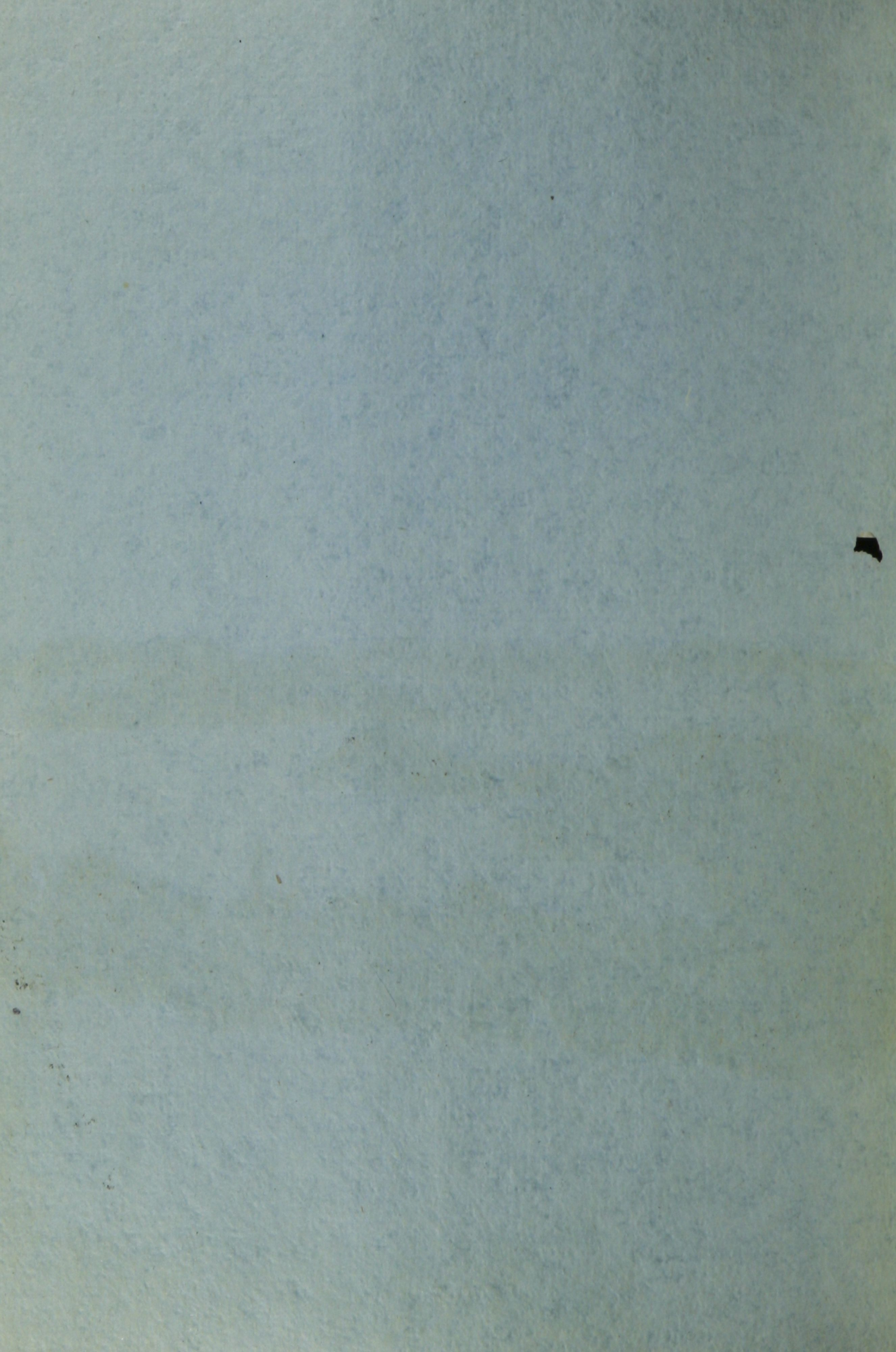
WHITSUNDAY PASSAGE

QUEENSLAND

(WITHIN & WITHOUT)

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Whitsunday Passage

(Queensland):

Within and Without

ENTRANCING SEASCAPE
... SPLENDOURS ...
MAINLAND ACTIVITIES
... AND POSSIBILITIES ...

First Edition, 1915

Compiled and Issued by
The Queensland Government Intelligence and Tourist Bureau
Queen and George Streets, :: :: :: Brisbane



The Enchanting Island - Studded Whitsunday Passage, North Queensland.

Whitsunday Passage

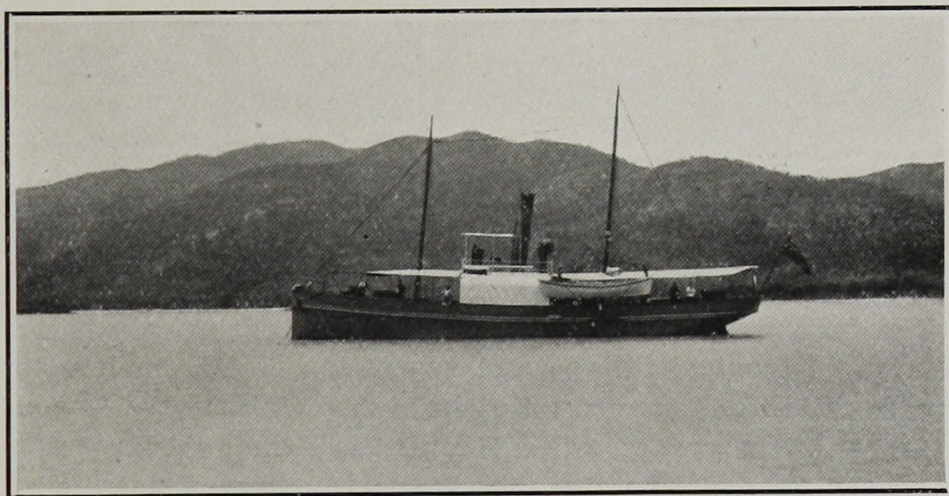
(QUEENSLAND):

Within and Without

INTRODUCTION.

“There mildly dimpling ocean’s cheek
Reflects the tint of many a peak,
Caught by the laughing tides that lave
These Edens of the Eastern wave.”

WHITSUNDAY PASSAGE, a beautiful stretch of water extending from Gloucester Head in the north to Cape Conway in the south, and studded with islands of uniquely quaint formation, is unquestionably one of the most picturesque spots in the Southern Hemisphere. The superlative beauty of the scene is of the most entrancing description,



Gloucester Island and Passage, North Queensland.

and it is no wonder that tourists from the southern portions of the Commonwealth of Australia, passing through the Passage for the first time, are dumfounded for words to adequately describe its wonderful charms. The fame of the Whitsunday

Passage as a marine Eden has not only reached to the four corners of the Australian Commonwealth, but to other parts of the civilised world. No one is more loud in praise of this natural beauty spot than the globe-trotter, who, unhesitatingly, asserts that there is nothing more fascinating or more amazing in its wealth of diverse splendours. Sheltered from the fury of the elements by the Great Barrier Reef and groups of islands of more or less considerable height, the sea within the Passage is almost as unruffled as a millpond.

“Thou glorious sea ! More pleasing far
When all thy waters are at rest,
And noonday sun or midnight star
Is shining on thy waveless breast.”

Though thousands of tourists from the Southern States pass through the Whitsunday Passage every year on their way to the famous Barron Falls, only a very small percentage of these break their journey at Bowen in order to make a close study of the idyllic places seen from a passing steamer. Were more to do so, Bowen would soon become the rendezvous of thousands of Southern tourists every year. The oftener the place is visited, the more bewitching it seems to become. As a matter of fact, its infinite charms simply intoxicate beholders with delight, and make them feel, for the nonce, in the “Seventh Heaven of Delight.” The length of Whitsunday Passage from Gloucester Head in the north to Cape Conway in the south is 60 miles, but the circumnavigation of the necklace of islands, which are dotted about the waterway, involves a voyage of fully 400 miles in a motor launch or sailing boat. Elsewhere in this book there is published a succinct account of a cruise made through the Passage a couple of years ago.

The forty or more islands, many of which are clothed with a profusion of tropical foliage and vegetation, are from less than 1 square mile to 43 square miles in area. Whitsunday Island is the largest of the group; while Hook Island, the next largest, has an area of 24 square miles. These islands are penetrated for distances of from 2 to 3 miles by many wide inlets, bays, and coves, and are bordered by mountains with an altitude of over 1,000 feet. A number of these marine havens of refuge have a good depth of water for the greater part of their length, and afford splendid anchorages amidst most sumptuous scenic splendours. On the inner side of Whitsunday Island is the far-famed

Cid Harbour, which is remarkable for its poetic beauty. Some years ago this spot was the scene of much activity in timber-getting, and even to-day there are evidences of the strenuousness of the occupation then carried on. Formed by the southernmost group of islands is Kennedy Sound, lying, like an oceanic pearl, between Lindeman, Seaforth, Shaw, and Maher Islands. From the summit of Mount Oldfield, on Lindeman Island, a panorama, enthralling in its magnificence, is unfolded of the islands and the vast bosom of the blue and green tinged ocean. The ascent of this hill is fairly easy to negotiate, and the sightseers are rewarded for their exertions by being enabled to gaze upon a scene of majestic beauty and infinite variety, which is, forsooth, difficult to excel. From this coign can be discerned

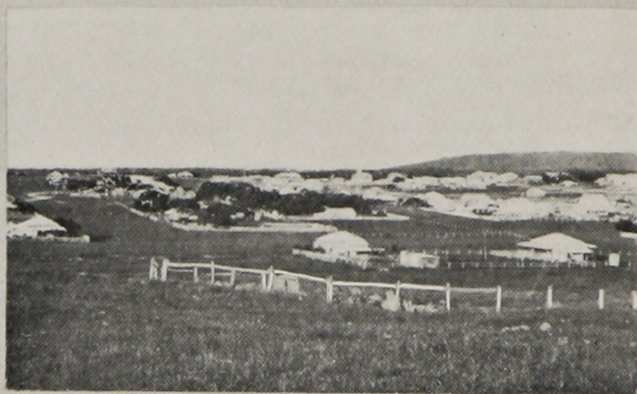
“ Seagirt isles,
That, like to rich and various gems, inlay
The unadorned bosom of the deep.”

Lindeman Island has been in occupation as a sheep and goat run for a number of years by Captain Adderton. The situation and charming surroundings of this island make it an ideal



Sheep on Lindeman Island, North Queensland.

position for a tourist and health resort, from which excursions to the other islands of the group could be arranged. All of the islands are easily accessible from Bowen. Commencing at Gloucester Passage, about 16 miles easterly, and within a distance of about 35 miles, are many small islands—Saddleback, Rattray, Eshelby, Gumbrell, Grassy, Armit, Double Cone—where good anchorages are assured under ordinary meteorological conditions. A few miles south-easterly is Hayman Island, and then



Views of Bowen and Harbour, North Queensland.

extending south for a distance of about 40 miles are Hook, Whitsunday, Molle, Dent and lighthouse, Hamilton, Long, Pentecost or Lion Island, Lindeman, and several other islands in a cluster of sublime loveliness. Between 60 and 70 miles easterly, and within close proximity to the Great Barrier Reef, is a further group of islands. The most notable of these are:—Border, Deloraine, Ireby, Harold, Edward, Haselwood, Workington, Lupton, and Pine. Ensconced between Haselwood, Lupton, and Pine Islands is Waite Bay—a fine sheet of sparkling water,

“Where the spirit of peace abides.”

THE BEAUTIFUL AND THE PRACTICAL.

Leaving Bowen by motor launch, Gloucester Passage, a charming sheet of water, is passed through, Cape Gloucester being on the right and Gloucester Island on the left. The last-named is rugged and precipitous, and admirably suitable as a picnic resort. It is 16 miles from Bowen, and has on the southern end a good stretch of sandy beach. There are small patches of hoop pine and stunted bloodwood forest, while the face of Nature is carpeted with spear and other grasses. Saddleback Island (322 feet), so called because of its formation, is also rocky and precipitous, and has a splendid beach, as well as several pretty little bays. Running out in the shape of a V from the lee side to the mainland, there is a small area of flat country, which is well grassed in places, and on which goats can be bred successfully. In places there are clumps of stunted scrub. To the south of this is Olden Island (269 feet), covered in places with dwarfed timber. The succulent oyster, shells, &c., are to be found here in large quantities. In a north-easterly direction are Rattray (340 feet) and Eshelby (170 feet) Islands, both of which have good sandy beaches, and are ideal fishing grounds. Both these insular rocky mounds possess wild and rugged beauties, the dense brush giving a verdant hue to the picture. The craggy Gumbrell (287 feet) and Armit (494 feet) Islands, situated to the north-east of Olden Island, next command attention. Here, too, are to be found good sandy beaches, and the surrounding country is fairly well grassed and has patches of stunted scrub. The grassy slopes of Grassy Island (481 feet) lend themselves admirably for the breeding of Angora goats. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that Armit, Olden, and Gumbrell Islands are equally as well

suitable in that respect. To the south of Grassy Island, within the nestle of the mainland, are Double Bay and Woodlark Bay, each of which possesses charms peculiarly its own. The asperities of Nature are very much in evidence on the Double Cone Islands (312 feet). Covered with dense stunted brush, the waters encompassing these islands teem with fish of all kinds, while the shores are the home of the Torres Strait pigeons during the season. The rock oysters are of excellent quality, and the great variety of shells is calculated to bewilder the conchologist.

“ While black with storms the ruff'd ocean rolls,
And to the fisher's art yields up her finny shoals.”

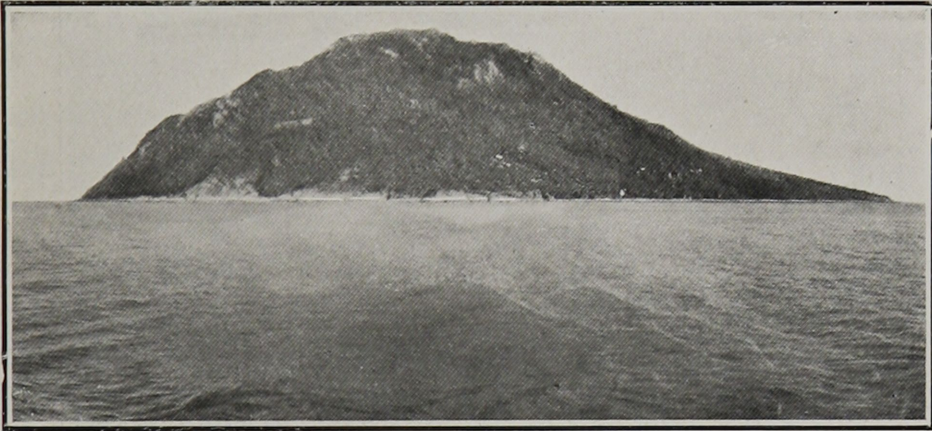
Pioneer Bay, the picturesque watering-place of Proserpine, is next entered. The mainland thereabouts, however, is known



Bona Bay, Gloucester Island, North Queensland.

as Cannon Valley. Molle Passage is passed through, and then the group of four Molle Islands, each of which has a distinguishing name—North, West, Middle, and South. The well-grassed slopes of the North and South Molles render it possible to breed sheep and horses successfully there. In point of fact, Mr. G. Sterry, of Proserpine, is doing well in this direction. The soil

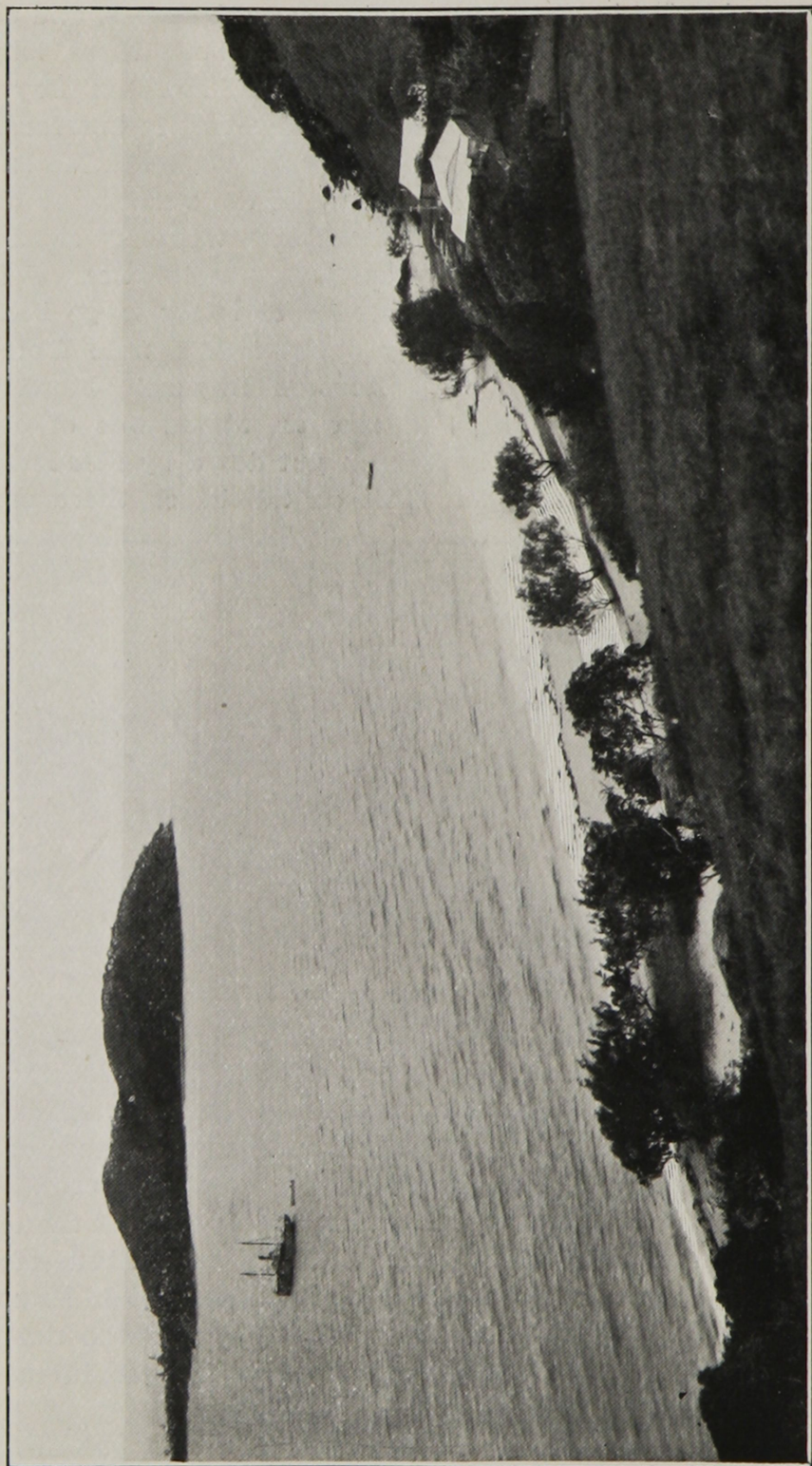
is also suitable for the cultivation of papaws, bananas, and citrus fruits. Permanent water is obtainable on both these islands. The timbers include blue and poplar gum, Moreton Bay ash, bloodwood, and pine; the last-named, however, is not found in large quantities. There are three dwellings on South Molle, and a woolshed on North Molle. According to the vernacular of the aboriginals, the name for South Molle is "Whriba," signifying stone for tomahawks. The agricultural possibilities of Long Island are emphasised by the existence of fairly large belts of rich black loamy soil. It is only about half a mile from the mainland, and is timbered with Moreton Bay ash, bloodwood, gum, pine, and cedar. There is also an abundance of coarse grass. A well, supposed to have been put down by Flinders, the explorer, is still in existence, while on the beach there can be



Middle Island, Bowen Harbour, North Queensland.

seen the remains of what is believed to be a Spanish vessel of old-fashioned design. In a westerly direction, embracing the mainland, are Port Molle and Trammel Bay. On the banks of the latter are about 1,000 acres of rich agricultural soil, more or less heavily timbered with cedar, pine, yellow-wood, and crow's-foot elm. In places the country is mountainous, several of the elevations, which, officially, are unnamed, rising to an altitude of over 1,000 feet. Among the few bearing names are High Mountain (1,836 feet) and Mount Kangaroo (893 feet). To the north of Port Molle is a small indentation known as Hooper Inlet.

Entering the wonderful Whitsunday Passage, groups of islands are left behind in the run to Lindeman Island. Henning (227 feet), Pine (340 feet)—so called because of the presence of



Captain Adderton's Home on Lindeman Island, Kennedy Sound, with Seaforth Island in the distance.

hoop pine in large quantities—and Dent Island (568 feet) with its lighthouse call for more than passing mention. The austere appearance of the last-named island, in particular, is signally noticeable, and its lighthouse makes it

“A grim sentinel by night and day.”

As has been stated in the introductory pages of this book, Lindeman Island (712 feet) is one of the most notable in the group within the Whitsunday Passage. For years Captain Adderton has been engaged in the breeding of sheep and Angora goats on the fine stretch of tableland on the summit of the island. There is an abundance of nutritious grasses, and it is timbered with Moreton Bay ash, bloodwood, gum, while in places dense patches of vine scrub exist. The black loamy soil lends itself admirably for the cultivation of citrus and tropical fruits, many of which are now producing prolific crops. Permanent water is obtainable on the tableland. This island is surrounded by a number of extremely captivating bays and coves, several of which provide safe anchorages for “ships that pass in the night.” From the apex of Mount Oldfield, the sightseer is afforded an opportunity of obtaining a glorious panorama of the Whitsunday Passage and its cluster of islands. Situated between this island and Seaforth (176 feet), Shaw, and Maher Islands (550 feet) is Kennedy Sound—an expanse of blue water varying in depth from 30 to 100 fathoms. The iridescent shades the water assumes as the boat glides gracefully over its unruffled surface is most enchanting. Now it is opalescent, then dark green, then a lighter shade, and finally it is as clear as crystal. Gazing over the sides of the boat, it is possible to see through the transparent waters marine gardens of exquisite beauty at a depth of from 15 to 20 feet. Clumps of coral and vegetation gorgeous in their multiplicity of ever-changing hues, with schools of fishes of every variety and shade disporting amidst these elysian depths, are also brought under the observation of the voyager, who is amazed with the plethora of loveliness.

“Where'er we gaze—around—above—below,—
What rainbow tints, what magic charms are found!”

Crossing Kennedy Sound, the next place of call is Echo Bay, on the south-west point of Shaw Island. As the name implies, Echo Bay owes its title to the fact that the serenity of its placid

waters is disturbed by uncanny sounds. Shaw Island is another of the splendid fishing grounds within the Whitsunday Passage. It is more: it is a most delightful tourist resort and beauty spot. Shaw Peak (1,324 feet), on the north-eastern point, and Mount Arthur (250 feet), on the southern point, cast a shadow upon the ocean, and

“ Make a night on morning’s brow.”

The presence of pandanus and ti trees on this island denotes that permanent fresh water can be obtained without difficulty. The country consists of open forest, scrubby ridges, and patches of dense vine scrub. The soil is of a black loamy nature, and is eminently adapted for the growing of tropical and citrus fruits. The island is also well-grassed, and should suit the raising of sheep and Angora goats. The timbers comprise Moreton Bay



Long Island Passage, North Queensland.

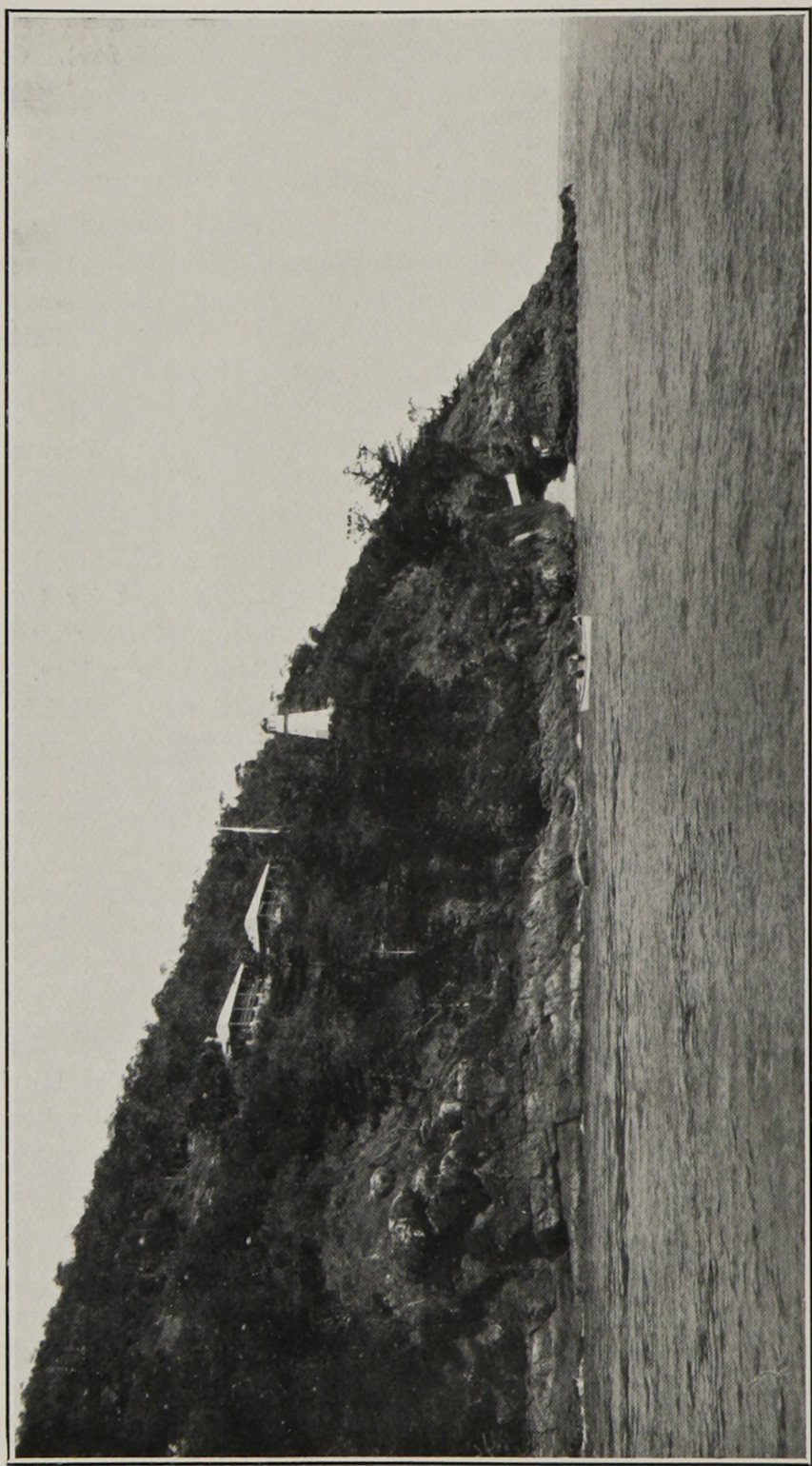
ash, bloodwood, and gum. Some years ago the State Government planted groves of cocoanuts on the island around Neck Bay and Echo Bay, with the laudable idea of providing natural food for shipwrecked mariners. To-day these trees are yielding fruit freely. As the voyage southward is continued two very attractive bays—Puritan and Genesta—to the west of Lindeman Island, and on the foreshores of the mainland, are passed; and, later, Ripple Rock, Cape Conway, Cape Rock, and Repulse Islands are seen in the distance. Rounding Shaw Island, the boat journeys through the Cumberland Isles, a cluster of oceanic jewels, and excellent

places for votaries of the art piscatorial. The largest of these isles is called Thomas, and has an elevation of 445 feet. On the left is Keyser Island, which provides unlimited satisfaction to surf-bathers.

On, ever onward, through a chain of islands—the most prominent of which are Pine Island (140 feet) (*secundus*), Triangle Island (150 feet), Mansell Island (630 feet), Comston Island, and Maher Island (550 feet)—and then the storm-scarred, thunder-cleft Pentecost Island (941 feet) is reached. This vast mound of rock is also called Lion Island, owing to it resembling a lion couchant. Sailing across the Passage, Hamilton Island (775 feet) comes into view. On this island Mr. T. A. Walmsley is breeding sheep. It is well supplied with grass, has permanent water, good black soil suitable for all kinds of fruit-growing, and carries forest and scrub timbers. Whitsunday Island is to the north-east, and is reached from the south-west by Gulnare Inlet. This island is the largest and most important, commercially, of the group, and has an area of 43 square miles. It is splendidly grassed, watered, and the soil will grow all kinds of fruits. The country will also carry sheep and Angora goats. Its chief commercial importance is denoted by the abundance of hoop pine. The island, however, has been proclaimed as a timber reserve. There are many delightful bays, inlets, coves, &c., on all sides of the island, while at Tongue Point, on the north-eastern side, there is a magnificent stretch of sandy beach. Half a mile further south is a large saltwater lagoon, wherein timid individuals can bathe with the utmost safety. Apostle Bay, to the north, and Hill Inlet, to the south, of Tongue Point, are also delightful spots. On the western side is the famed Cid Harbour, one of the finest natural anchorages in Australia. The beauties of this harbour are illimitable, and no pen or brush can adequately describe or portray them. They must be seen, as it is here

“There is a rapture by the lonely shore.”

Among the many excrescences on the face of Nature on this island the most conspicuous are Cairn Peak (1,230 feet), Whitsunday Craig (1,175 feet), and Whitsunday Peak (1,426 feet). The remains of an old sawmill still exist to substantiate the statement that timber-getting was carried on years ago. A number of papaw, banana, and cocoanut trees are also in a flourishing condition.



Dent Island Lighthouse, Whitsunday Passage, North Queensland.

Returning via Gulnare Inlet, the voyage is continued in a south-westerly and then a north-easterly direction, the islands of Henning, Hamilton, Perseverance (326 feet), and Surprise Rock being slipped by until the Solway Pass is crossed. Then Teague Island (285 feet) and Pine Island (356 feet) (tertius), and afterwards Haselwood Island is reached through Waite Bay. On this last-named island there is an abundance of permanent fresh water, grass, timbers (Moreton Bay ash, bloodwood, and gum), and the soil is all that is required for profitable fruit-growing.



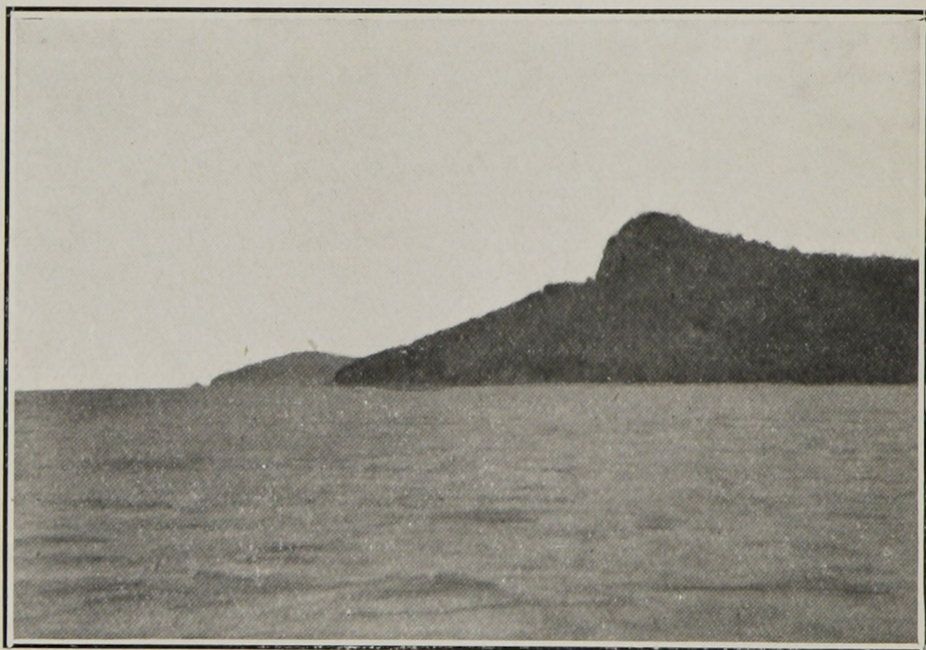
Cape Conway, North Queensland.

The country is also suitable for sheep and Angora goat raising. The islands of Lupton (445 feet), Workington (320 feet), Edward (347 feet), Harold (247 feet), and Ireby (164 feet) are seen on the run to Whitehaven Bay. This beautiful sheet of water is sheltered from the fury of the elements by a cluster of islands, the most conspicuous of these being Whitsunday and Haselwood. With the sun glistening on the bosom of the waters, the scene is

“ . . . One unclouded blaze of living light ! ”

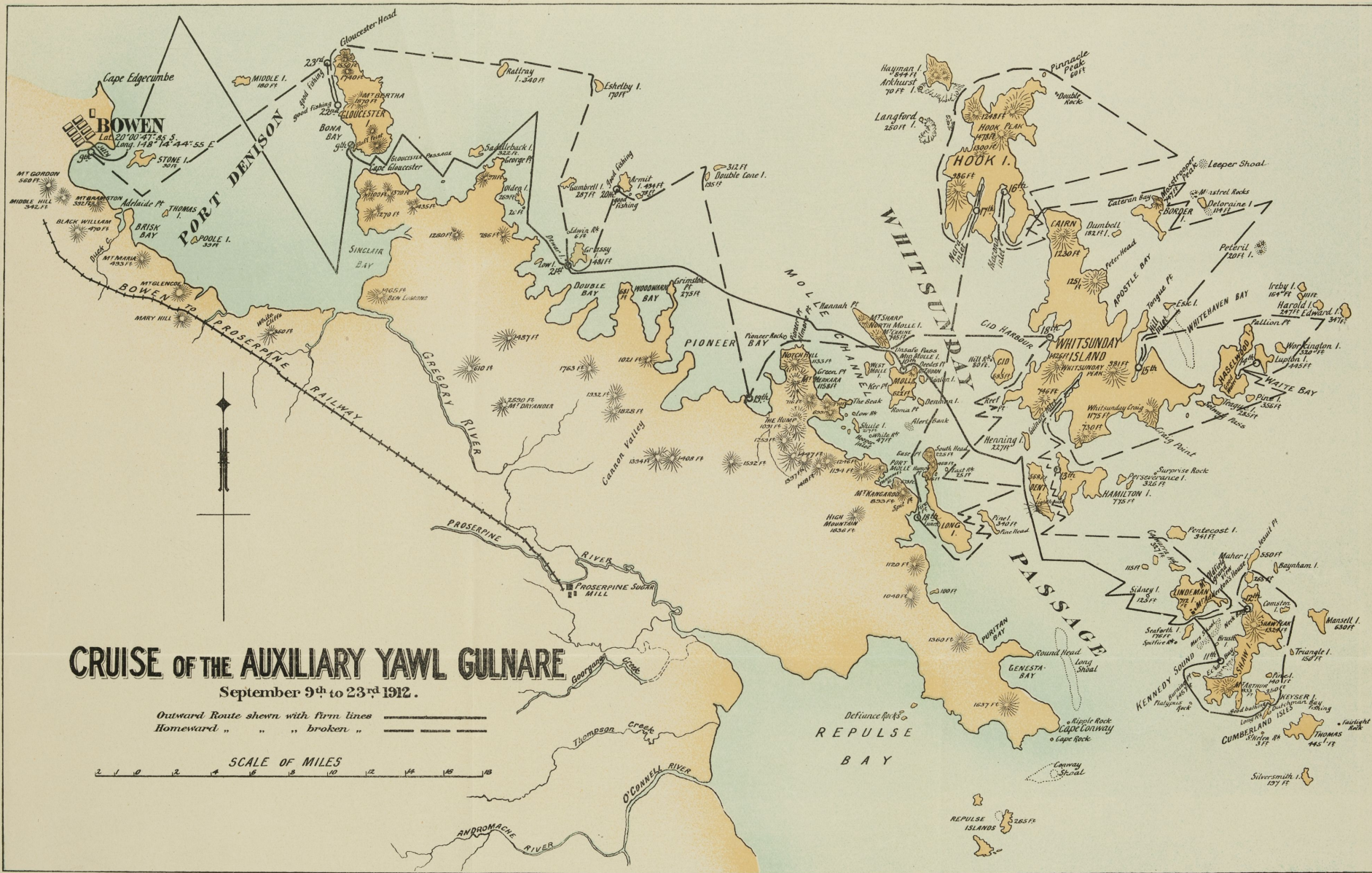
Continuing in a north-easterly direction, a group of isles within close proximity of the Great Barrier Reef come into view during the zig-zag course. Border Island, the larger of these, has Moss-trooper Peak (747 feet) at its northern end. Its headland is very rocky, and is clothed with stunted timber (including young hoop pine) and a good mantle of grass. The other island of note—Deloraine—has a capital sandy beach, which makes it attractive

as a tourist resort. Crossing Cateran Bay, to the north of Border Island, a south-western course is pursued until Macona Inlet, to the south of Hook Island, is entered. Hook Island has an area of 24 square miles, is very steep, rugged, and mountainous, and has a number of exceedingly alluring inlets and bays. Nara and Macona Inlets stand out prominently in this respect. The mountain scenery is of an imposing order, and persons who ascend their heights are enabled to get a comprehensive survey of the island-dotted ocean on all sides. Though many of these mountains have an altitude of over 1,000 feet, Hook Peak (1,478 feet) is the only one bearing an official title. There is much dense vine scrub on the island, and abundance of hoop



Northern End of Hamilton Island, North Queensland.

pine. Under way again from Macona Inlet, a southerly, then westerly, then northerly route for short distances is followed before the circumnavigation of Hook Island is accomplished. The chief points of interest in this voyage are Double Rock, Pinnacle Rock (60 feet), on the north-east, and Hayman (a wild and rugged island of 844 feet) and Langford Islands (250 feet) on the north-west. Hayman Island, with an area of $1\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, is held under occupation license by Mr. T. R. Abell. A multitude of isles, all marine gems in themselves, are passed



and repassed in the south-westerly zig-zag homeward journey. Many of these delightful spots, it may be mentioned, have already been briefly described in the pages of this book. A study of the chart showing the cruise of the auxiliary yawl "Gulnare," facing page 17, will show the track prosecuted for the remainder of the voyage to Bowen.

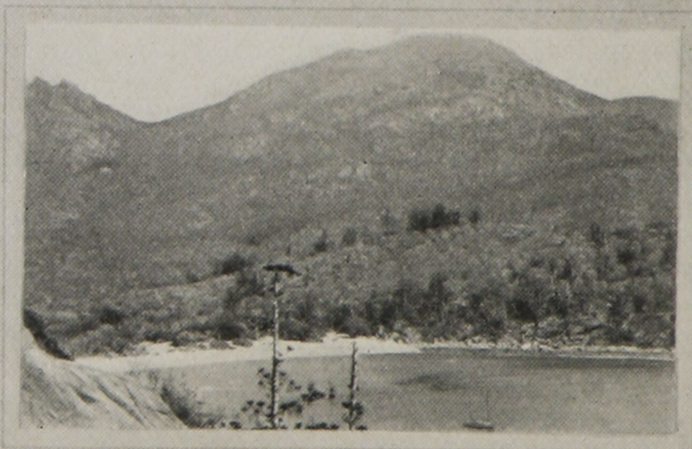
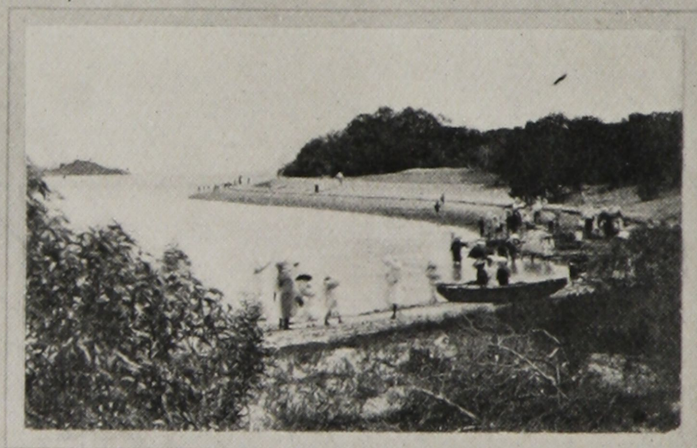
The climate on the islands within the Whitsunday Passage is cool and refreshing all the year round, though during the winter months there is a crispness in the air which gives a zest to the exploring inclinations of the tourist. An equable rainfall is also experienced, thus making it possible to pursue agricultural and pastoral activities on the islands without any meteorological risks.

As will be seen from the foregoing description, the soil on many of the islands in Whitsunday Passage is admirably adapted for the cultivation of crops, particularly different kinds of fruits; and all of them are more or less suitable for the breeding of sheep and Angora goats. Among the islands available under the Occupation License clauses of the Land Act are:—Haselwood and Lupton (5 square miles), annual rental £10 the lot; Hook ($22\frac{1}{2}$ square miles), 12s. 6d. per square mile; Border ($1\frac{1}{2}$ square miles), 30s. the lot; Gloucester ($10\frac{1}{2}$ square miles), 10s. per square mile; Pentecost ($\frac{1}{2}$ square mile), 10s. the lot; Keyser ($\frac{1}{2}$ square mile), 10s. the lot; Thomas ($1\frac{1}{2}$ square mile), 30s. the lot; Seaforth (130 acres), 20s. the lot; Shaw (8 square miles), 20s. per square mile; Grassy (400 acres), £3 the lot; Middle (160 acres), £2 the lot. Full particulars in regard to the foregoing islands may be obtained from the Officer in Charge, Land Settlement Inquiry Office, at Brisbane and Townsville; or the Land Agent at Bowen.

Among the fishes which abound in Whitsunday Passage are:—Schnapper, silver, black, and red bream, Government bream, groper, dugong, beche-de-mer, turtles, &c. The feathered game found on the islands include:—Plain and scrub turkeys, wild ducks, pigeons, &c.

THE COST OF THE TRIP.

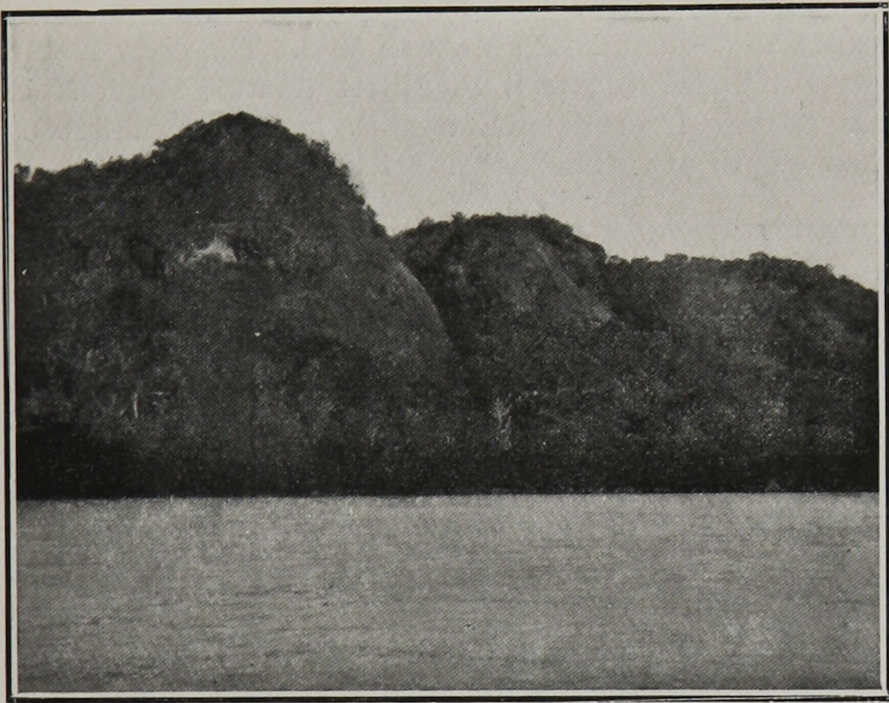
The most popular period of the year for Southern tourists to make the trip through Whitsunday Passage is from May to



Scenes in Bowen Harbour.

1. Sinclair Bay.
2. Beach on the western side of Stone Island.
3. Hidden Bay, eastern side of Gloucester Island

September. The whole journey can be accomplished in a month comfortably, the saloon fare by steamer from Melbourne to Bowen being £19 19s., from Sydney £15 18s., and from Brisbane £10 19s. Southern tourists, breaking their journey at Brisbane, can obtain at either the Railway Inquiry Office (City Buildings, Edward street) or the shipping offices a combined rail and steamer ticket, enabling them to travel as far as Gladstone and Rockhampton by train, where they can embark on the steamer bound for Bowen. These combined tickets entail an additional expenditure of £7 2s. (single) or £12 11s. (return) to Gladstone,



Hill Inlet, Whitsunday Island, North Queensland.

and £6 7s. (single) or £11 10s. (return) to Rockhampton and Port Alma. The trip by rail from Brisbane to Gladstone and Rockhampton is full of interest.

On arrival at Bowen tourists can make their own arrangements relative to the chartering of motor launches for a cruise through islands in Whitsunday Passage. To make this excursion thoroughly would occupy a fortnight. Two motor boats are available for hire by tourists for a week's or a fortnight's cruise at from £1 10s. to £2 per head per day respectively. Each boat

Corrigenda.

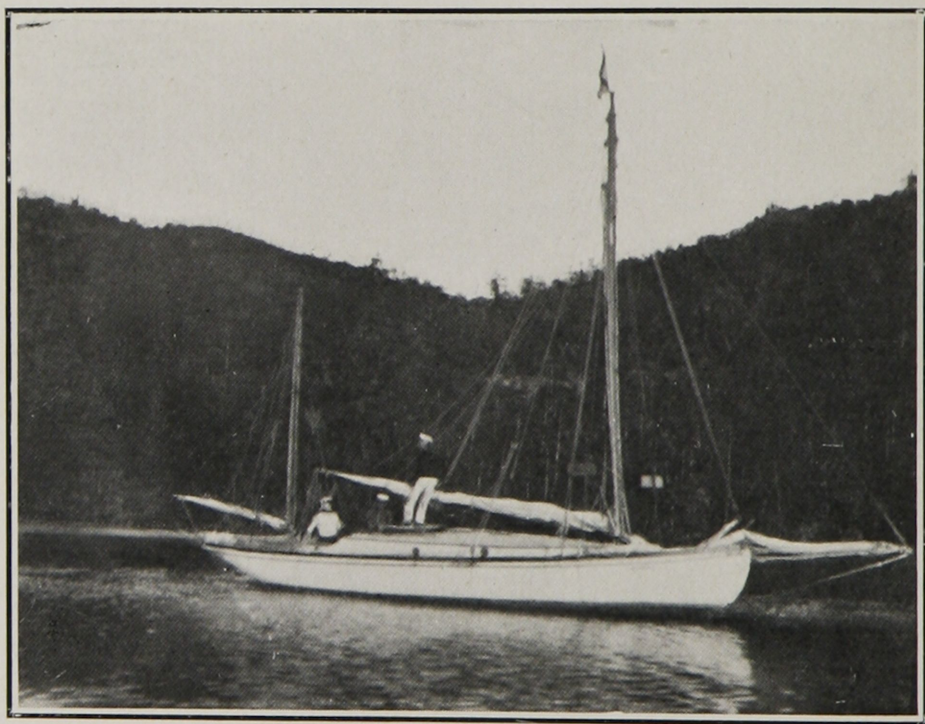
For the last two and a-half lines on page 19 **read—**

“Two motor boats are available for hire at 15s. per head per day for not less than four persons for one week or over,”

will provide comfortable accommodation for five passengers. This includes the cost of ample provisions for the party and also payment for the services of the men in charge of the boat. Communications addressed to Messrs. Thomas Stewart, Charles Anderson, or the honorary secretary, Port Denison Sailing Club (Bowen), will receive prompt attention, but it is always advisable to give them early notice of proposed excursions.

THE CRUISE OF THE "GULNARE."

The appended extracts are taken from the log of the skipper of the auxiliary yacht "Gulnare," which made a fortnight's cruise of the Whitsunday Passage in 1912. The crew included:—Messrs. F. C. Hill (owner), R. Jillett (mate), Hugh Macintosh (Lands Survey Department), and C. McLay (architect). The two last-named are well-known Brisbane yachtsmen.



The Yacht "Gulnare" in Nara Inlet, Hook Island,
North Queensland.

"Monday, September 9.—Arrived at Bowen, after a pleasant trip by 'Wodonga,' at 6.30 last evening. Met Hill, owner of yacht, and transhipped most of our supplies and camped aboard

Corrigenda.

After the word "boat" at the end of the third line from the top of page 20 **insert—**

"Tourists must provide their own liquid refreshments and bed clothing."

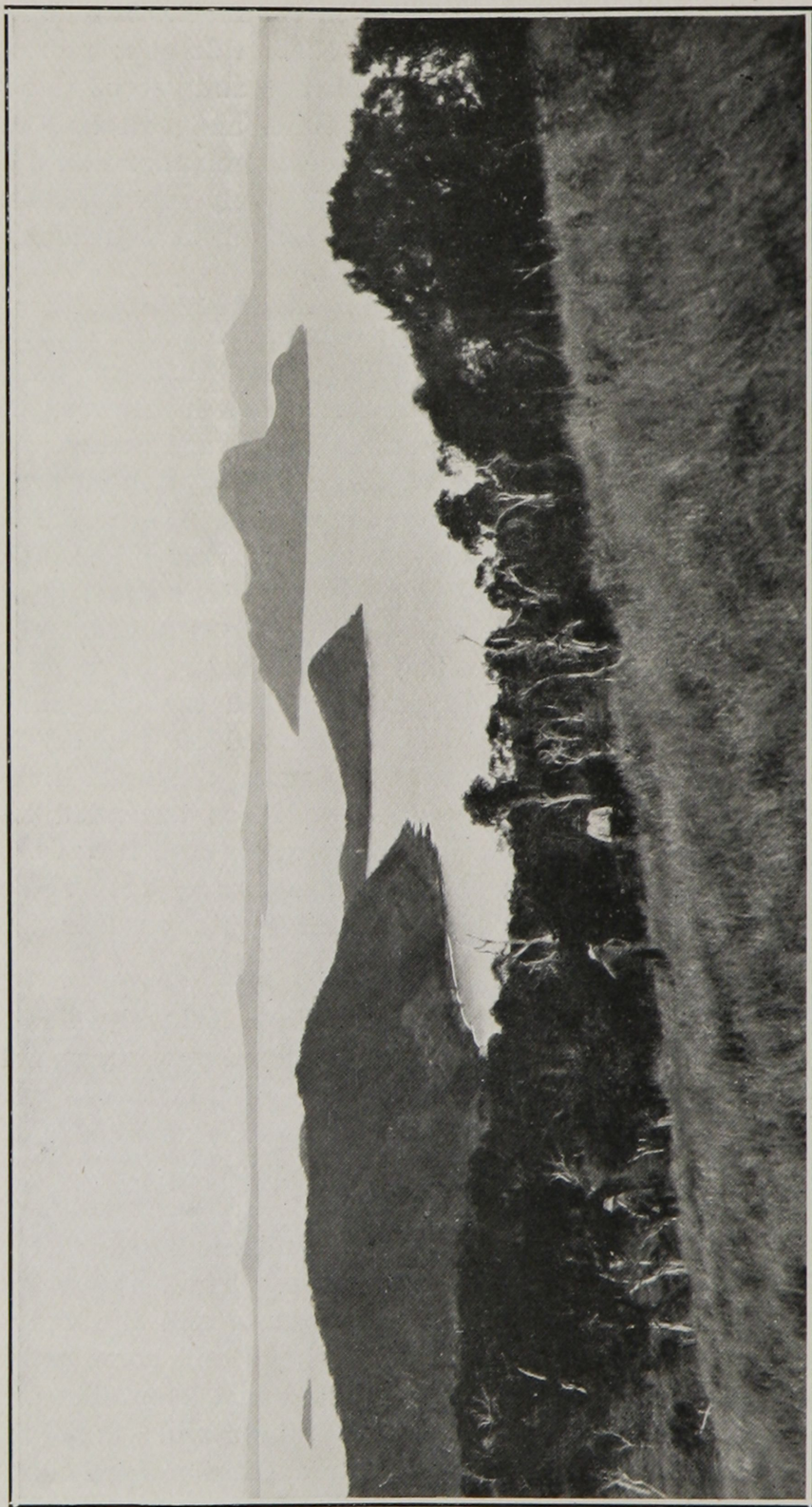
And, in lieu of the last four lines in the first paragraph on the same page, **read—**

"Communications addressed to Mr. C. Anderson, care of Commercial Hotel, Bowen, or Mrs. F. Hill, Poole street, Bowen, will receive prompt attention, but it is always advisable to give them at least one week's notice of any proposed excursion,"

for the night. Added to our supplies in the forenoon and began our cruise at 11.55 a.m. Wind, fresh N.E.; tide ebb; gloriously fine, clear day. At 1 o'clock wind freshened and veered to E.S.E. The engine behaved badly for some time, and sail had to be depended on entirely, while the engineer-commander had a hard and anxious time. After a brisk sail and lively sea, anchored in Bona Bay, on south end of Gloucester Island, at 6 o'clock, wet and cold. Distance, 36 miles.

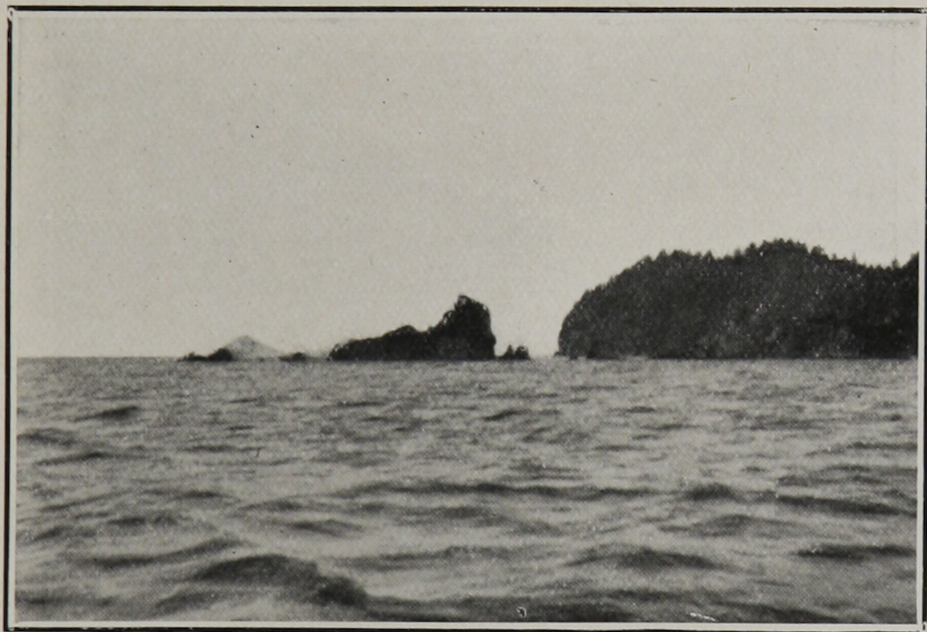
"Tuesday, 10th.—Fine morning; wind still E.S.E., moderate; overhauled engine. Started at 7.15. Beat through passage. Breakfast off George Island. At 10 a.m. stood in towards Olden Island and intercepted s.s. 'Wodonga,' southward bound. Wind light; engine now useful. At S.W. end of Grassy Island brought up alongside cutter 'Petrel,' owned by one Dewar, of Port Newry, who has been engaged in dugong and other fishing, shell collecting, &c., for about thirty years. His craft is about 30 feet long by about 13 feet beam, and in working order carries four canoes, eight aborigines, and several dogs. Gave us some dugong and shells. The artist photographed the camp ashore. Distributed gifts and left at 12.25. Anchored off (North) Molle Island at 4.20, after a gloriously fine day, during which the engine was of great service. The two Macs ascended Mount Horn and got a splendid view of the passages and islands. The rest of the crew went along to the cottages and returned with lemons and oranges. Some sheep and goats on this island. Distance, 39 miles.

"Wednesday, 11th.—Under sail 6.15; gloriously fine cool morning. Flood tide in our favour. Intended passing round the north of Dent Island, but the strong run of tide forced us into the channel on the west side; off lighthouse at 8.15. Off the entrance to Kennedy Sound at 11.15, and anchored at Captain Adderton's comfortable homestead at 11.30; went ashore and were heartily received by the captain and his good wife, who have been in occupation for fourteen years. Their appearance is certainly an excellent tribute to the climate and the charming surroundings. There are about 1,300 sheep and some goats on the island at present, and about 1,100 had just been shorn. Day warm and pleasant. The scenery here is bold and beautiful. To the north is the diversified and clearer outline of Lindeman; to the east and south, in bold relief, the highland of Shaw and Maher Islands, with Shaw Peak (1,324 feet) in the centre. To



Pentecost Island and Whitsunday Passage, from Lindeman Island, North Queensland.

the southward and in the entrance is Seaforth Island, and to the west the bold outline of the coast from Cape Conway northerly; the whole forming a scene of surpassing loveliness, indelibly fixing itself upon the memory. Went ashore again at 3 o'clock and, piloted by Captain Adderton, climbed the highest peak on the island, and were rewarded by a glorious panorama of islands, passages, and ocean. The imagination can scarcely picture a more beautiful scene. On the eastern slope there is a cliff with a drop of about 200 feet, forming the western side of a large amphitheatre, down the centre of which is a rocky gorge or gully, dry at the present time. It was strange to see numbers of sheep and goats dotted like specks all over the slopes of this valley.



Northern End of Hook Island, North Queensland.

Found three young goats dead on the edge of the cliff, evidently killed by hawks. On our return to the house Mrs. Adderton hospitably entertained us with tea and scones. The 'Relief,' from Mackay, on its monthly visit to Dent Lighthouse, also calls here, and is now overdue. Aboard at 5.30, and motored across to Brush Island, a reputed fishing ground. Found very strong run of tide with numerous eddies, and a depth of 20 fathoms. At 8 o'clock, finding anchor dragging, motored closer into shore opposite a bay with a good echo, to which we gave the name Echo Bay. Fine, still night. Distance, 26 miles.

" Thursday, 12th.—Went ashore, cocoanut trees on the beach. Low tide showing wonderful marine vegetation on both inner and outer beaches. Started at 9.30, and went round by Burning Point, S.W. end of island. Anchored at 11 a.m. off North Point of Long Rock and fished for an hour. This is a very pretty spot, Thomas Island showing to the eastward. The tide sets very strongly between Long Rock and Keyser Island. Motored across to a nice sandy bay on Keyser, which we have named Dutchman Bay, and had a glorious bathe in wonderfully clear water. After lunch, under sail and engine, went northerly along



South-eastern End of Hook Island, North Queensland.

the outside of Shaw Island, and entered Kennedy Sound by the narrow pass between Shaw and Maher Islands, but this channel is not recommended, as we touched on one large boulder with the centreboard, the tide being low. Anchored in Neck Bay at 4.20. Mac. and Reg. ascended Shaw Peak (1,324 feet), and just managed to get back at dark after a hard climb, the greater part over boulders and steep rocks. The day has been beautifully fine and warm, with wind light from the southward in the forenoon and light from N. to E. in the afternoon. The scenery has been

grand and lovely all along, some of the peaks and inlets on this rugged coast being very striking. Distance, 21 miles.

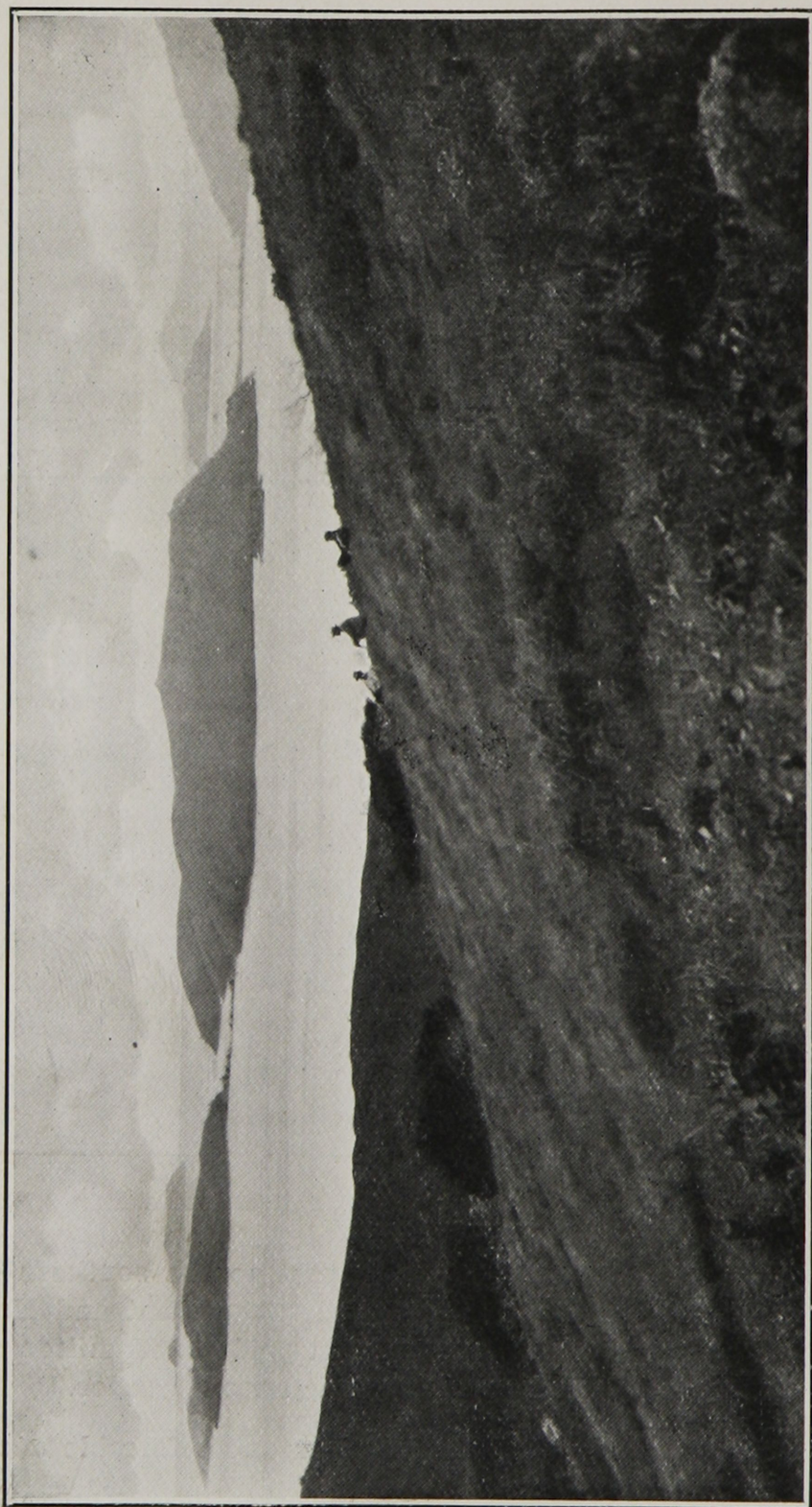
"Friday, 13th.—West ashore to outside beach shell gathering. Wind light E. to N.E. After breakfast went ashore again for more cocoanuts. At 10.30 sailed across to Adderton's, 3 miles. The engineer-commander went goat hunting with Captain Adderton and returned at 1.30 with a young one for our larder. After the artist had photographed the group we returned aboard at 2 o'clock well provided with dainty eatables by Mrs. Adderton. Underway at 2.30; wind, N.E. to north, moderate to fresh. On clearing the S.E. point of Lindeman stopped engine. Had a nice



Eastern End of Shaw Island, North Queensland.

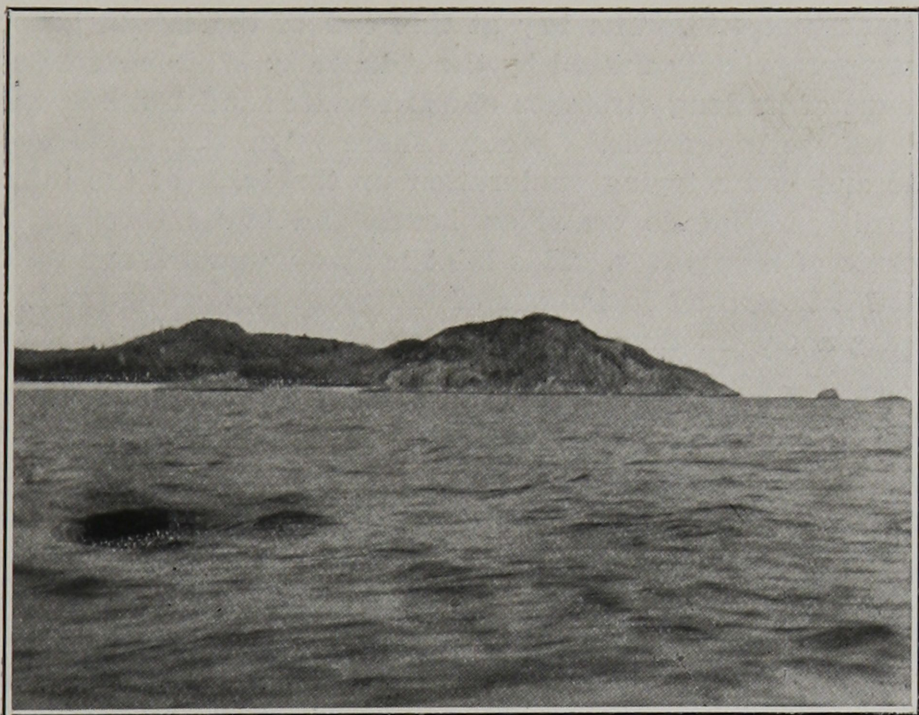
sail past Cawarra Head and Pentecost to the southern end of Dent Island. Beat up the channel between Dent and Hamilton and anchored south of the north-west point of Hamilton at 5.50. Wind now N.N.W.; tide late ebb. Distance, 26 miles.

"Saturday, September 14.—Rather uncomfortable anchorage for the greater part of the night. Depth of water 15 fathoms, and wind almost straight down the channel. Rolled considerably



View from Lindeman Island, Whitsunday Passage, North Queensland.

at turn of tide. Went ashore at 6 a.m. across a coral beach to the north side of island to search for operculum shells. No result after strenuous labour in turning over boulders. There is no one at present on this island, which until recently has been in occupation for sheep-raising. The buildings are still intact, and there are a number of fruit trees, including papaws and lemons in bearing. Needless to say, we laid in a good supply. Underway, sail only, at 10.15, wind still fresh from N.N.W. Beat up to



Burning Point, Shaw Island, North Queensland.

the long inlet on the S.E. end of Whitsunday; anchored a mile and a-half up at 11.30. This is a fine inlet carrying a fair depth of water for 3 miles with fine bold scenery, the hills being well timbered and with patches of scrub. Being unnamed, we have called it Gulnare Inlet. Pulled in the dingey to the head. Underway again at 2 o'clock, wind fresh from N.W., puffy, and occasionally veering north. Ebb tide in our favour. Had a gloriously lively sail between Hamilton Island and the bold and picturesque southern coast of Whitsunday out into the open sea. Cleared Pine Island, and beat into Waite Bay, between Haselwood and

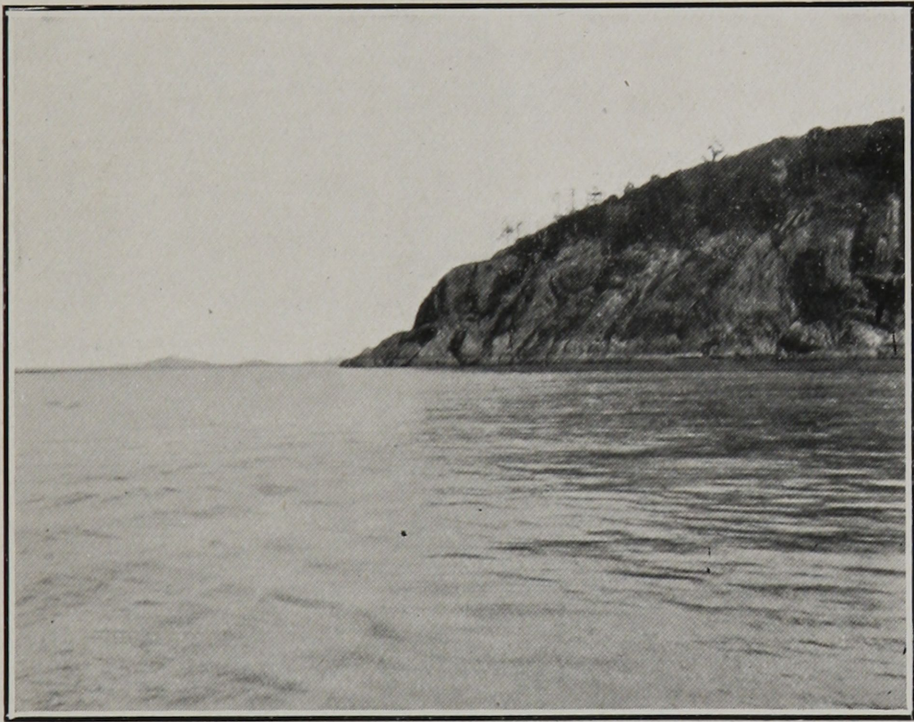
Lupton Islands, outside the extreme eastern point of Whitsunday, anchoring in 2 fathoms at 5 o'clock. There is good shelter here in westerly, northerly, or easterly weather. Distance, 22 miles.

" Sunday, 15th.—At anchor until 10.30. Motored across to Haselwood, and found a good supply of fine, clear water. Refilled tanks. Underway again at 12.25; wind, fresh N.N.E. Cleared Pine Island and laid across to Edward Island. Cleared Pallion Point at 2.45, Esk Island at 3.40. Furled sails and motored up the inlet at Tongue Point for a considerable distance, anchoring at 4.15. The bay at this end of the island has been most appropriately named by the Admiralty Whitehaven Bay on account of its long stretches of hard white sand beaches, known as 'whispering sands.' Went ashore with the engineer and mate and had a trying exploration up the bank of the inlet, on returning having to crawl on hands and knees through dense thickets of mangroves. This inlet is also unnamed, and we have called it Hill Inlet in honour of the great exploring qualities of the engineer. Distance, 16 miles.

" Monday, 16th.—Started at 5 a.m., but had not gone far before we grounded on the ebb. Walked along the outside beaches and examined the entrance at low water. Many mullet and whiting in small creeks, numbers of very large sting-ray, and many small sharks. By noon the tide had sufficiently risen to make a start. Started at 12.25 and reached the entrance at 2 o'clock, after anchoring four times on account of the erratic behaviour of the engine. Started under full sail at 2.25; fresh northerly wind. Thunderstorm apparently trying to form in the S.W. Made a long board out between Peteril and Deloraine Islands. Then in to Border Island. Mosstrooper Peak abeam at 5 o'clock; Dumbell, 5.30; Cairn Point, Whitsunday Island, at 6 o'clock. Met very baffling winds in the narrow passage between Whitsunday and Hook, but with the help of the engine we managed to anchor at 7.45 well up the most eastern inlet on Hook Island. The sail, notwithstanding our anxiety about the engine, was a very enjoyable one. The view of Hook and Whitsunday, with their high peaks and fantastically shaped rocks and crags before us, and the outermost islands of Border and Deloraine to seaward, was exceedingly fine in the evening light, the whole effect being heightened by a purple haze. The passage between Whitsunday and Hook Islands is narrow for

some distance, the water of a beautiful colour and of good depth. Distance, 30 miles; a good performance after a long wait and a discouraging start. This inlet, being unnamed, we have named Macona Inlet.

“Tuesday, 17th.—The view in this inlet is very pleasing. It is 3 miles long by a width of from over half a mile to a mile with a depth at our anchorage of 9 feet at low water. Morning fine and mild, with some clouds from the north, dispersing during the day. At 7.5 motored up to head of inlet, which ends boldly and abruptly with steep timbered hills to the water's edge. To the north is visible Hook Peak (1,478 feet), the summit hidden by



Keyser Island, North Queensland.

a misty cloud. Experiments with the engine took up the time until 11.30; got it going and made a start for outside and round Hook Island. Engine failed us in the passage. Beat through and cleared at 12.30. At 1.30 got the engine into fair working order. Beautifully fine day with a mild north-easterly wind; flood tide setting against us. The scenery of the outside of Hook and Whitsunday, with Border and Deloraine to the immediate seaward, is very fine in the bright sparkling sun-



Cid Harbour, Whitsunday Island, North Queensland.

shine; Pinnacle Peak, the north-eastern extremity of Hook Island, abeam at 4.10. Passed through two or three miles of infusoria from the Barrier Reef. Coasted along the shore of Hook and anchored in the long inlet west of Macona Inlet at 6.40. This fine inlet, being also unnamed, we have called Nara Inlet. The tides have been adverse all day. Distance, 40 miles.

“Wednesday, 18th.—Steam motored up to head of inlet. Bold timbered hills on each side and in front with beautifully clear water with a depth of 4 fathoms at the head. The artist here photographed the boat and the crew from the dingey. Went



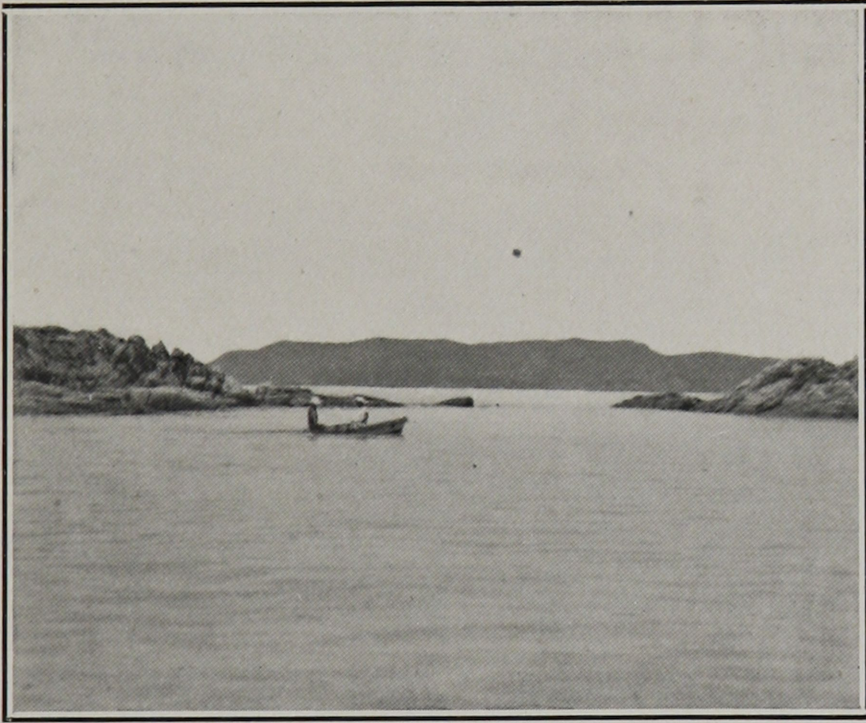
Dutchman Bay, Keyser Island, North Queensland.

ashore and explored one of the small creeks for crabs. Under-way, sail, at 9.30. Fine morning; some clouds over the high peaks. Steered a course for Molle Harbour; wind N.W., light; first of flood tide in our favour. Fine view of Hook to the north, Molle Island and the bold mountains of the mainland to the south-west and westward; Long Island to the south, and Whit-sunday, with Cid Island and the far-famed Cid Habour, to the eastward; to the N.W., open sea with Gloucester Head and Double Cone Island in bold relief; the whole scene in the bright

sunlight with the sparkling blue waters making an enchanting picture. Passed South Head, Molle Harbour, at 12.30 and anchored at Fire Point at 1.15. This is a reputed fishing ground, but, probably from lack of proper bait, we were not successful. The scenery between Long Island and the mainland is very charming; the rounded hills of Long, on the east, and on the west bold, densely timbered and scrubby hills and mountains steep to the water's edge. Wind at this time north and steady. Left at 2.45; rounded south end of Long Island at 3.25, and now had wind and tide against us. Beat through the narrow channel between Long and Pine Islands, on clearing which laid across to Dent Island. Wind now light and fitful, and tide still sweeping us back. At dusk made East Rock of Long Island; wind now veering N.W. and tide beginning to ebb. At 8 o'clock, after four tacks, we were off Reef Point, near the southern entrance to Cid Harbour. Furled sails and entered under engine, anchoring at 9 o'clock in the harbour in 3 fathoms, very pleased to stop after the long day. Distance, 46 miles, practically all under sail. Good roll from the north during the night, but otherwise fine and pleasant.

" Thursday, 19th.—Went ashore on Whitsunday. This was some years ago the camp of timber-getters cutting timber on the island, and there are still some traces of the work, such as the boiler and iron rails. There is also a mandarin tree loaded with fine, ripe fruit, some banana and mango trees, and pineapple plants in profusion. The well with cemented sides is still good, and some distance up a rocky gorge a dam had been constructed, from which water was evidently conveyed by pipes to the boiler. Due east Whitsunday Peak shows its lofty summit (1,426 feet), and the slopes of the hill are clothed in pine and vine scrub, the whole effect being very lovely, but in our opinion not to be compared to the views in Kennedy Sound. The forenoon we spent ashore, washing clothes, boiling beef, and baking a damper. Aboard again at 1.30. Started under sail at 2.15; wind light N.E., flood tide, steered a course between Molle and Mid Molle; cleared the passage between these islands at 4.30. Strong tide ripples in this passage. Started engine at 5 o'clock. Pioneer Point abeam at 5.15. View very fine to the westward approaching the coast, with grand sunset effects. Anchored off Jubilee Pocket at 6.10. Rather heavy swell for a time at anchorage in 3 fathoms, Distance, 17 miles.

"Friday, 20th.—Strong southerly set in during the night, and the morning was beautifully clear, and fine and cold. We are anchored off the cottage of a selector named Abell. After patching a rent in the mainsail, went ashore with the artist in the hope of replenishing stores to some extent, but to our disappointment found the cottage unoccupied. Helped ourselves to a few lemons, which are growing plentifully here, and after a look round returned aboard, having a stiff pull against the strong breeze. Underway at 10.40, under mainsail, for Double Cone Island. After a lively sail in a freshening breeze and sea anchored off



Long Rock and Thomas Island, North Queensland.

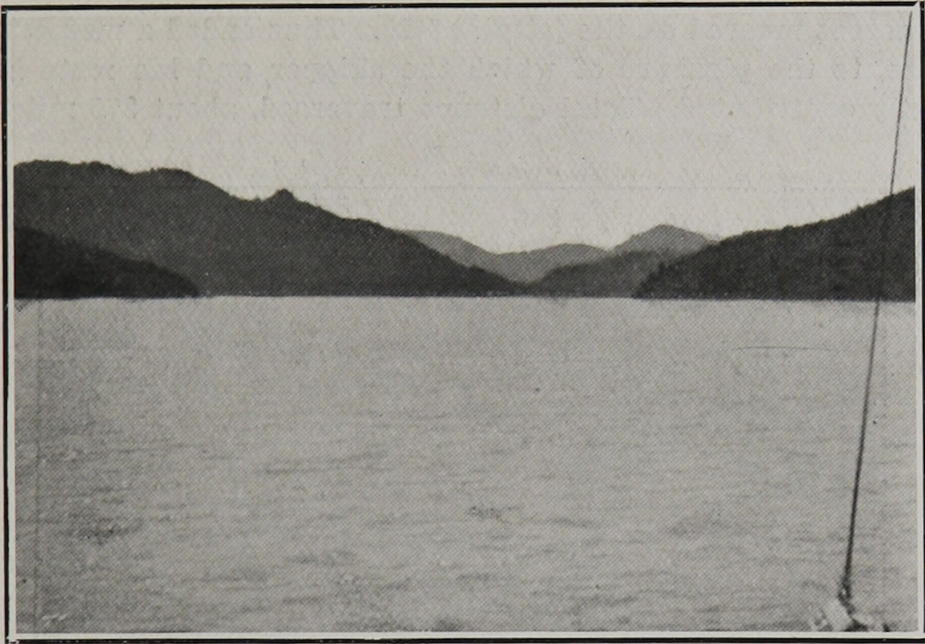
western end of Double Cone at 12.5. Anchor dragging; got engine going and anchored nearer shore, where there was less swell. Spent some time on the southern beaches collecting cowrie and other shells. There are very good rock oysters here. Caught a small rock cod in the coral, which subsequently proved useful and remunerative as bait. Returned aboard at 2.15. Underway, 3.35. Difficulty with the anchor, which was caught in rocks. Steered for Armit Island; anchored under its lee at 4.45, after



1. Beach, Grassy Island—Whitsunday and Molle Islands in the distance.
2. View between the Mainland and Grassy Island.
3. Beach, Grassy Island—Whitsunday Island in the distance.

brisk sail, good anchorage with sandy beach. Distance for the day, 18 miles. Had good fishing here, using rock cod for bait. This is a great place for shells, as is also Double Cone.

"Saturday, 21st.—Gloriously fine and cool. This anchorage is open only to the N.W., with Gloucester Head in the distance and Eshelly Island in about the centre of the open. The bold outline of the coast is very imposing. S.S. 'Roscommon' passed southwards at 6.15 a.m. Spent the forenoon on the outside beaches, where there is a wonderful variety of marine life and growth. Had some exciting fishing in the afternoon, lines being



Gulnare Inlet, Whitsunday Island, North Queensland.

broken several times. Underway at 4.25 for Grassy Island; wind still strong S.E. with good sea. Anchored under the lee of the spit on Grassy at 5.5. Distance, 6 miles.

"Sunday, 22nd.—Fine cold morning. Wind strong, S.W.; had some more beach walking and shell gathering. Underway, mainsail and jib, at 8.45. Last of flood tide; wind now veering south-easterly, fresh. Went about off north end of Eshelby at 10.15, wind freshening, lively sea. Rounded Rattray Island, anchored on the western side at 11. Caught a fine rock cod. Went ashore and climbed some distance up the peak. Left at

2.45. Again difficulty in clearing anchor. S.S. 'Wodonga' passed in ahead at 3 o'clock. Rounded Gloucester Head at 4 o'clock. Good sea here, with fierce squalls deflected in all directions by the high mountains, 2,000 feet. Anchored halfway down the island at 4.35. Distance, 26 miles. Cold night.

"Monday, 23rd.—Rolled a good deal during the night, and slumber much disturbed in consequence. At 7.a.m. shifted back to a fishing ground, and at this and another place had some excellent sport, catching some good cod, parrot, coral bream, and salmon. Wind very squally, varying in direction. Left for Bowen at 11, again having difficulty in clearing the anchor. After a fine sail across moored off the jetty at 1.20. Thus ended a memorable cruise, to the pleasure of which the skipper and his mate have greatly contributed. Total distance traversed, about 370 miles."



Scene in Bowen Harbour, North Queensland.

MAINLAND ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBILITIES.

Bowen.

Picturesque as is Whitsunday Passage, the mainland has also a wealth of attractions. This is especially noticeable in the Bowen and Proserpine districts. Foremost of these is Bowen Harbour, one of the finest deep-water natural anchorages on the

coast of Australia. Its expansive sheet of smooth water will float the largest vessel visiting this part of the world. The many islands in the harbour act as a barrier during tempestuous weather; consequently, steamers and smaller craft can pass through the untroubled waters with swanlike grace. Close to the foreshores are Poole Island, Thomas Island, and Stone Island, with Middle Island (180 feet) out in the distance and Gloucester Island (1,870 feet) to the east. There are many charming spots along the seaboard. These include Sinclair Bay, Brisk Bay, Adelaide Point, King and Queen Beaches, Cape Edgecumbe, and the North Passage between Nares Island and Holborne Island. The splendid stretch of sandy beach, planted with a row of cocoanuts, with the crystalline waters racing across it, makes it a delightful spot, indeed, for sea-bathing. The words of the poet adequately describe the scene—

“Thou glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form
Glasses itself.”

In the town of Bowen there are several quaint rocky formations, while in the district many of the mountains are of more than ordinary height. Among these may be mentioned: Mount Gordon (560 feet), Middle Hill (342 feet), Mount Bramston (392 feet), Mount Black William (470 feet), Mount Maria (493 feet), Mount Roundback (2,580 feet), Mount Pring (1,386 feet), Mount Mackenzie (2,025 feet), Mount Abbott (3,410 feet), Mount Aberdeen (2,890 feet), and Mount Danger. Clarke's Range forms the watershed of the rivers to the west and south-west of Bowen. The district is well watered by streams, the chief ones being the Don River, Eurie Creek, Bogie River, and Bowen River. On the banks of these watercourses there are vast alluvial deposits of black soil, which will grow all kinds of crops, particularly citrus fruits and vegetables. Bowen has earned renown throughout the Commonwealth of Australia on account of the superior quality of the citrus fruits and tomatoes it produces annually. The average annual rainfall of the district is 41.06 inches, while the mean summer temperature is 80.4, and that during winter is 64.5. During dry spells the orchards and vegetable gardens of many of the settlers are irrigated, the water being pumped from adjacent rivers and creeks. Several effective systems of irrigation are adopted. An ample supply of water for domestic and

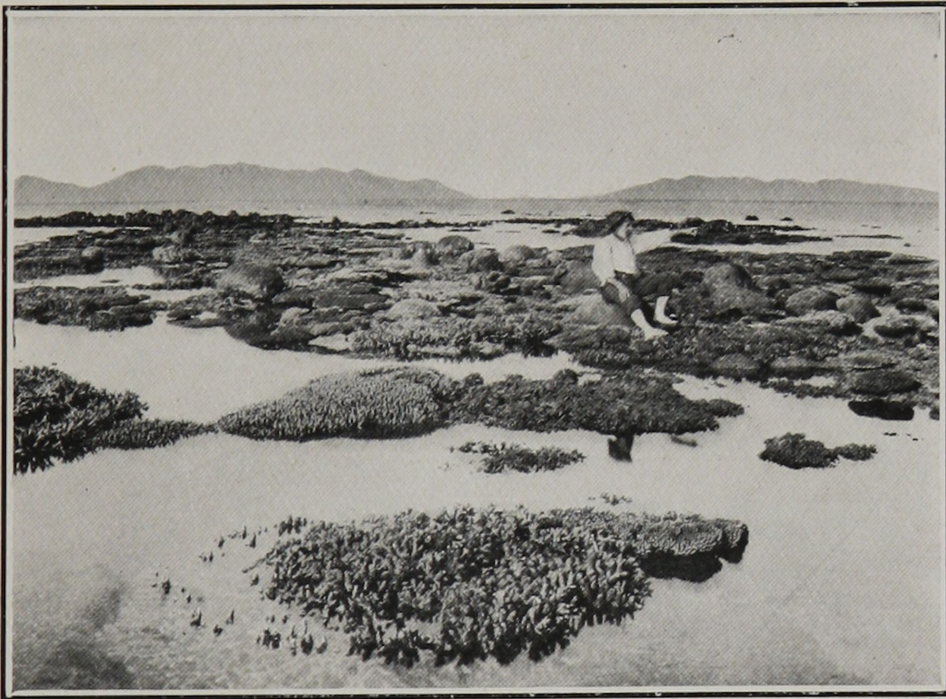


1. Shipping at Bowen Jetty.
2. North Head from Dalrymple Point, Bowen Harbour.
3. Loading Fruit at Bowen for Export.

other purposes can also be obtained by sinking wells. Maize, tobacco (cigar-leaf), calabashes, and sugar-cane also yield good crops, and thus

“Nature turns man’s sweat to diamonds.”

Since the establishment of a raw sugar-mill on the recently-purchased Inkerman Estate, a decided fillip has been given to the cultivation of sugar-cane. Home Hill, though only a few years in existence, is now a flourishing township. The mill is close to the Bowen to Ayr to Townsville railway line. The area under crops of all kinds in 1913 totalled 1,466 acres, of which 385 acres were under citrus and other fruits, the yield from the

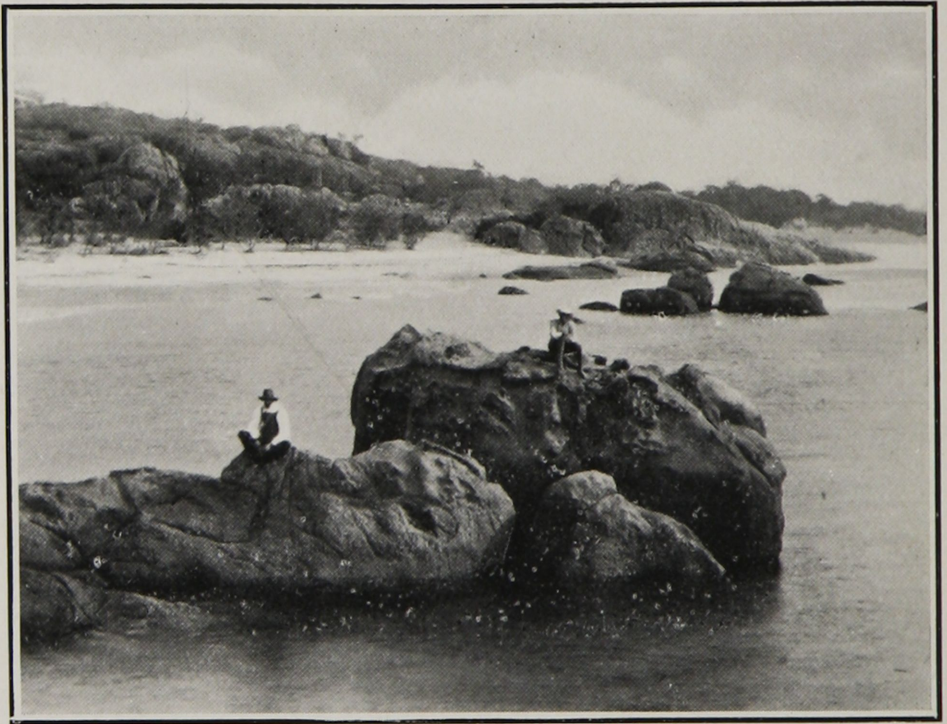


Coral Reef, Bowen Harbour, North Queensland.

former being 14,581 bushels. The quantity of tobacco produced aggregated 31,492 lb. The maize crop yielded 2,009 bushels, bananas 711 bunches, pineapples 1,740 dozens, English potatoes 433 tons, and pumpkins and melons 345 tons. Dairying also claims much attention, the country being particularly adapted for this profitable branch of agriculture.

The pastoral activities in this district are also largely carried on, cattle and horses being chiefly bred. Large numbers

of horses are exported annually to the East for military purposes, while the cattle are sold to the Bergl Australia Meatworks at Merinda, situated a few miles from Bowen. The largest stations are:—Strathmore Nos. 2 and 3, 33,011 cattle and 788 horses; Havilah and Heidelberg, 11,413 cattle and 301 horses; Salisbury Plains, 8,606 cattle and 346 horses; Birralea, 5,985 cattle and 220 horses; Mount Pleasant, 4,185 cattle and 581 horses. The meatworks gives employment to a large number of men, and exports large quantities of frozen and canned meats and by-products every year.



King's Beach, Bowen Harbour, North Queensland.

Considerable mineral wealth also abounds in the district, gold, silver, copper, lead, bismuth, and coal being found. On the Bowen River, a short distance from the town, a valuable coalfield has been proved to exist; the coal is of exceptional quality, and it is computed that there are over a thousand million tons in sight. Last year, 7,700 oz. of silver were won in the district.

Bowen is a very pretty little town, with a population of about 2,000, enjoying a most delightful and equable climate. As a health resort it cannot be excelled. During the past few

years the town has made much progress, and, as a natural sequence, there is a decided buoyancy to-day in commercial and industrial circles. Many of the public and mercantile buildings are of a pretentious character, and the various hotels provide ample and comfortable accommodation for tourists and others. The religious, educational, medical, and musical wants of the community are supplied to the fullest extent.

Railway communication is established with Ayr and Townsville, and also with Proserpine in the south. The distance by rail from Townsville is 120 miles, and from Proserpine 42 miles. When the Great North Coast Line is completed, Bowen will have direct communication with Cairns in the north and Brisbane in the south.

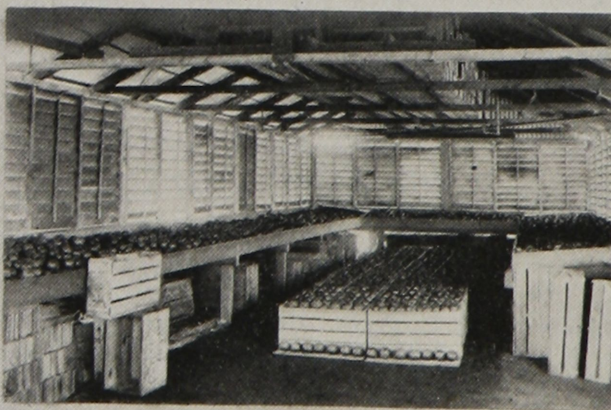
A substantial jetty, over half a mile in length, runs out into the harbour, and provides spacious berthage for all coastal, interstate, and oversea vessels visiting the port. A line of rails has been laid to the outer end of the jetty, thus affording great facilities for the speedy handling of cargo. Last year 343 vessels, of a total tonnage of 725,116, entered and left the port. The imports (oversea only) were valued at £20,797, and the exports (oversea only) at £162,234, or a total of £183,231.

To the sporting tourist the Bowen district offers unlimited pleasure in the way of fishing and shooting. The denizens of the deep include whiting, bream, cod, groper, salmon, barramundi, flathead, perch, mackerel, oysters, turtles, &c. Not only is there an abundance of feathered game, but marsupials as well.

There are many large orchards within close proximity to the town, and vehicles can always be arranged for to convey tourists thereto soon after the arrival of the steamer.

Proserpine.

is situated on the banks of the river bearing the same name. The township is 42 miles south-east of Bowen, with which it is connected by rail. It is also 95 miles north-east of Mackay. When the Great North Coast Line is linked up, Proserpine will have through communication with Cairns in the north, and Mackay, Rockhampton, and Brisbane in the south. The name



Scenes in the Bowen District.
1. Pineapple Farm. 2. Orange Orchard. 3. Oranges
Packed for Export.

of Proserpine has a mythological significance, inasmuch as Proserpine was, according to Roman mythology, the daughter of Ceres, the goddess of agriculture. That Dalrymple, the explorer, was justified in applying the name to the locality has been abundantly demonstrated by the agricultural wealth which exists in the district at the present time; in fact, there is no portion of Queensland with greater agricultural possibilities. Large areas of rich lands are being utilised in different portions



Main Street, Proserpine, North Queensland.

of the district for the cultivation of all kinds of crops, dairying, and the breeding of beef cattle and horses. At Strathdickie, Cannon Valley, Preston, and on the banks of the Andromache River, Kelsey Creek, Saltwater Creek, Gregory River, and O'Connell River much agricultural development is taking place, but there is room for still further expansion. Fairly large tracts of good land suitable for mixed farming are still available for selection from the Crown on easy terms and conditions. The lands on the banks of Repulse Creek and Repulse Bay are well worthy of inspection by intending settlers. Sugar-cane is most extensively grown in the Proserpine district. The area under this crop in 1913 totalled 3,722 acres, and the yield obtained from the 2,969 acres crushed was 55,694 tons. The local State Central Sugar Mill, which is a modern concern, manufactured 6,535 tons of raw sugar last year. The tons of cane required

to make a ton of sugar during the same period was 8.56. Other crops grown included:—Maize, 1,578 bushels; tobacco (cigar-leaf), 5,054 lb.; bananas, 6,682 bunches; oranges, 1,457 bushels; pineapples, 107 dozens; mangoes, 4,100 bushels. The average annual rainfall of the district is 77.39 inches.

The largest cattle and horse runs in the district are:—Ben Lomond, 3,855 cattle; Goorganga, 3,089 cattle and 482 horses; Breadalbane, 1,360 cattle and 194 horses.

The timber industry augurs well to play a big part in the prosperity of Proserpine in the near future. There is an abundance of pine, hardwood, and cedar, and these find a ready



Loading Sugar-cane for the Proserpine Mill.

market at the two local sawmills. Gold and coal have been proved to exist in the district, particularly on the Normanby Range and at Black Rock. Lack of capital, however, precludes these shows being fully developed.

The Proserpine River is the principal watercourse, and is navigable for a short distance by vessels of light draught. This stream, which is tidal, is fed by several creeks, the principal of which is Goorganga. The Proserpine debouches into Repulse Bay, as does also the O'Connell. The Gregory River rises in Mount Dryander, and flows into Edgumbe Bay, while the



1. Crop of Calabashes (Gourds) on a Farm in the Bowen District.
2. Shaft on the Bowen River Coalfield, Bowen District.

Andromache River has its source in Mount Hector, and eventually joins the O'Connell. Kelsey Creek is also a tidal stream, and waters a good area of country. There are also a number of large lagoons in the district, particularly on Goorganga Station. Cannon Valley,

"Clad in joyance night and day,"

is the popular seaside resort of the residents of Proserpine. There is also a fine beach at Conway, where surf-bathing can be indulged in with perfect safety.

Conspicuous among the rocky formations which rise abruptly from the face of Nature, and give the locality a rugged appearance, are Clarke's Range, Mount Dryander (2,690 feet), Mount Maguire (2,580 feet), Mount Challenger (2,580 feet), High Mountain (1,836 feet), Ben Lomond (1,465 feet), Mount Julian, Mount Hector, Mount Pluto, and Roma Peaks.



Government Central Sugar Mill, Proserpine, North Queensland.

As has already been stated, the Proserpine River is navigable for a short distance, and every week the port at the mouth of the river is visited by vessels of light draught. The bulk of the shipping is carried on with Bowen and Mackay. The port is connected with the township by a tramway.

Few towns in Queensland have made as rapid progress since their establishment as has been the case with Proserpine.

The town is well laid out, and its go-aheadism is emphasised by the substantial nature of the public and business structures. From religious, educational, musical, and medical standpoints the townspeople are well provided for. The population of the town and district is estimated at 3,000. Climatically, Proserpine and district are remarkably healthy, as is exemplified by the exceedingly small number of deaths recorded during the year. Invariably the heat of summer is tempered by a refreshing breeze from the sea, while in winter there is a rejuvenating snap of chilliness in the air. Verily Proserpine is a place

“Where health and plenty cheer'd the labouring swain.”

Nature has endowed the Proserpine district with quite a number of beauty spots, which cannot fail to appeal to the



Sugar-cane, Tobacco, and Vegetable Farm, Proserpine,
North Queensland.

æsthetic tastes of tourists. On the banks of many of the creeks there is a profusion of palms, tree-ferns, ground orchids, and other beautiful flora. Palm Creek, in particular, is well worth a visit, and so also is the waterfall in the vicinity of Cedar Creek. Visitors to Cannon Valley (one of the seaside resorts) are assured of comfortable accommodation at the local boarding-

house. Motor and rowing boats can be hired by those desirous of visiting the islands in Whitsunday Passage. There are also many charming spots on the Proserpine River, more especially at its mouth, the banks on either side being fringed with dense foliage. Repulse Bay is a dream of loveliness in itself.

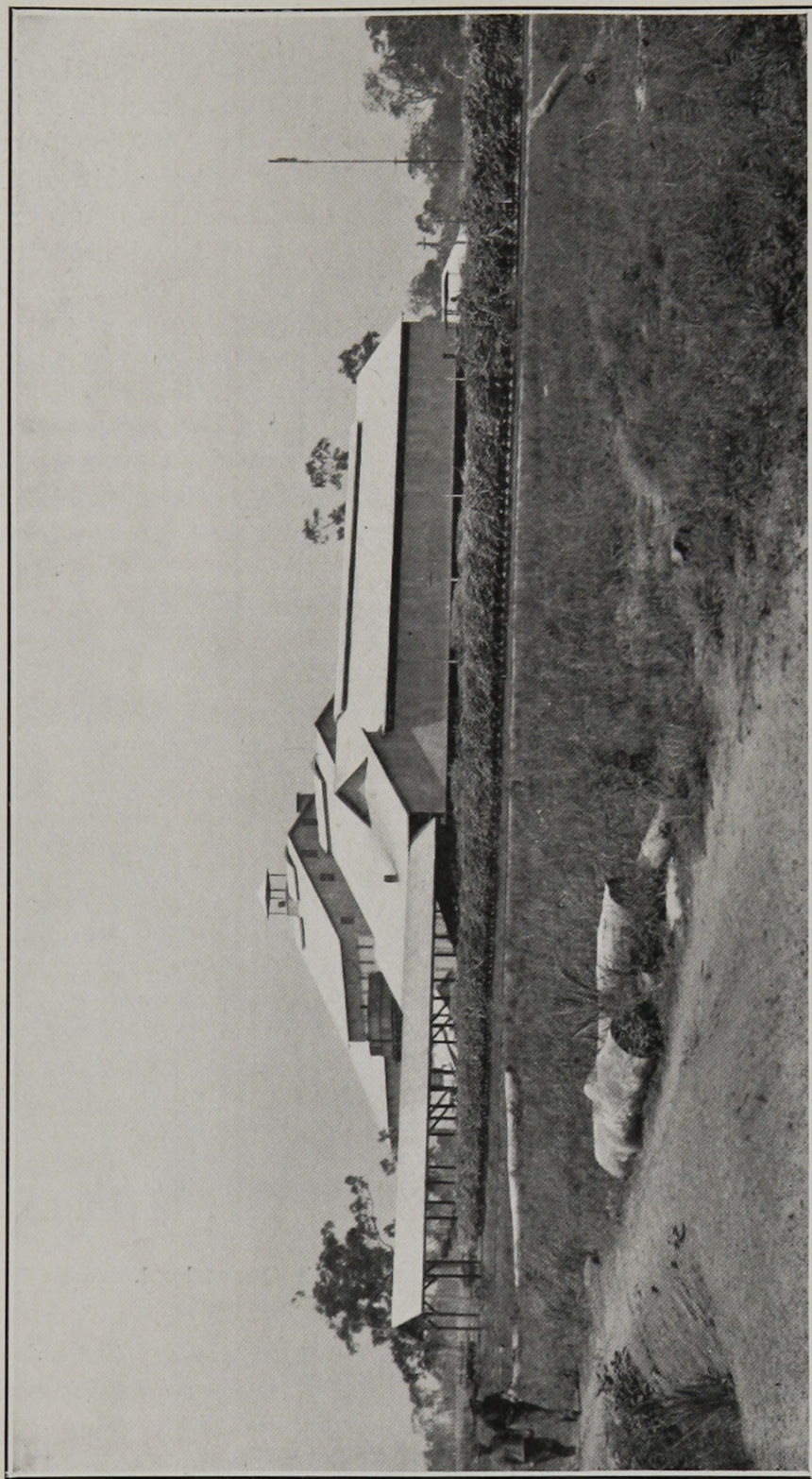
Tourists can spend a very pleasant and interesting time in Proserpine inspecting several of the many sugar-cane farms which surround it. The sugar-mill, which is only a few chains from the railway station, is generally in full swing during the tourist season. The different hotels in the town cater specially for the comfort of tourists. Vehicles are also available for hire.

All the streams in the Proserpine district teem with fish—barramundi, trevally, flathead, eels, &c.—while in the sea anglers experience no difficulty in hooking schnapper, groper, whiting,



Proserpine River, Proserpine, North Queensland.

and others. Many of the watercourses are infested with crocodiles of great size. As a matter of fact, the Messrs. Lee Brothers, of Preston, snare large numbers annually, and consign them alive to southern zoos and showmen. Feathered game, marsupials, and wild pigs are also plentiful in certain parts of the district, and provide good sport to those fond of shooting and hunting.



Inkerman Raw Sugar Mill, near Home Hill, Bowen-Ayr Railway Line.

LIBERAL LAND LAWS.

Queensland offers her broad acres of exceptionally fertile lands to settlers on the most liberal terms and conditions in the world. At the present time there are about 8,000,000 acres of agricultural and grazing lands available for selection in different portions of the State. Areas may be taken up under the following modes and conditions:—(1) Agricultural selections—i.e., agricultural farms, perpetual leases, agricultural homesteads, and free homesteads; (2) Grazing Selections, i.e., grazing homesteads and grazing farms; (3) Prickly Pear Selections; (4) Unconditional Selections.

The State is divided into Land Agents' Districts, in the principal town of each of which there is a Government Land Office and Land Agent. Particulars in respect of the location,



Bowen Harbour and Jetty, North Queensland.

area, quality, rents, and prices of land available for selection and detail plans thereof can be obtained on personal or written application to any Land Agent in respect of his own district, or to the Land Settlement Inquiry Office, Department of Public Lands, Brisbane, in respect of the whole State. Branches of

the Land Settlement Inquiry Office are established at Rockhampton and Townsville for the purpose of supplying information with regard to available lands in the Central and Northern Divisions of the State respectively.

An application for a selection must be made in the prescribed form, in triplicate, and be lodged with the Land Agent for the district in which the land is situated. It must be signed by the applicant, but may be lodged in the Land Office by his agent appointed in writing, and must be accompanied by the prescribed deposit. In the case of a Prickly Pear Selection the deposit must be the full amount of the prescribed survey fee, and in other cases, except Free Homesteads, a year's rent and one-fifth of the survey fee. In the case of a Free Homestead application the deposit consists of an application fee of £1 and one-fifth of the survey fee.

Except in respect of selections under the Group System, applications take priority in the order of their being lodged with the Land Agent, but applications lodged prior to the time notified as that at which land is to be open for selection are regarded as simultaneous with those lodged at that time.

If land is open for selection under different modes, and there are simultaneous applications to select it under the different notified modes, priority among such applications is given to an application for the land as an Agricultural Homestead as against an application for it as an Agricultural Farm; and to an application for it as an Agricultural Farm as against an application for it as an Unconditional Selection.

In the case of simultaneous applications for the same land opened for selection as an Agricultural Farm, or as a Prickly Pear Selection, not subject to the condition of personal residence, priority is secured by an applicant other than a married woman or a single girl under 21 years of age, who, when making application, undertakes to personally reside on the land during the first five years of the term. In other cases of simultaneous applications for the same land by the same mode of selection, priority is determined by lot, unless, in the case of simultaneous applications for the same land as a Grazing Farm or Unconditional Selection, a higher rental, or, as a Prickly Pear Selection, a higher purchasing price or lower bonus is tendered than that

notified. In that event the tender most favourable to the Crown secures priority.

Under the Group System land may be set apart for any body of settlers who, having some measure of common interest or capacity for mutual help, are desirous of acquiring land in the same locality. The procedure to be followed is for a request to be made to the Minister by the members of the body, explaining the grounds on which they are co-operating and setting out the land they desire to acquire. Should the request be acceded to, the land will be opened for selection in the usual way, but for a period to be set out in the notification it will only be available for the members of the body of settlers for whom it has been set apart.

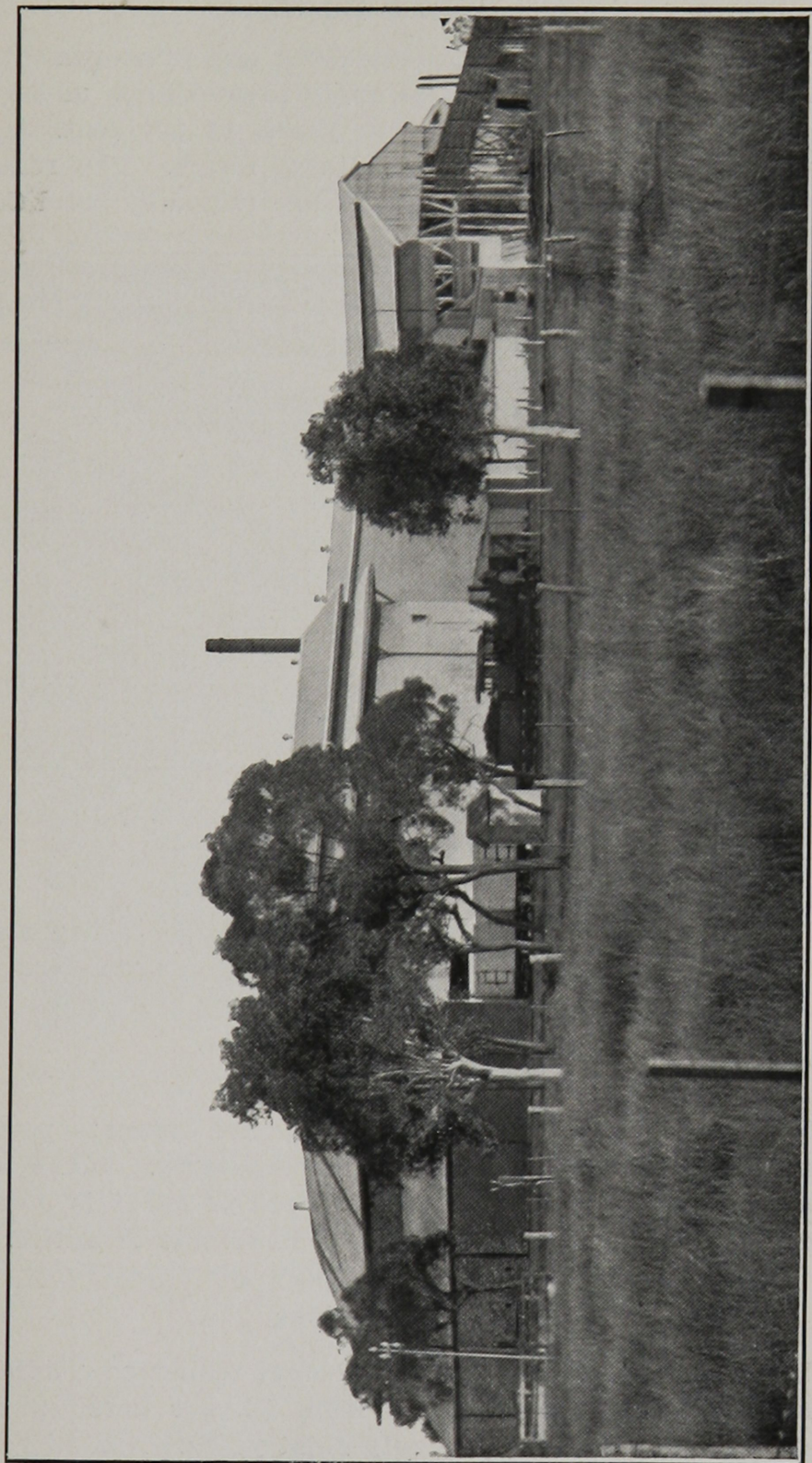
When an application has been accepted by the Land Commissioner and approved by the Land Court, and the applicant has paid for any improvements on the land, if any, or the amount of the provisional valuation thereof, if any, he becomes entitled to receive a license to occupy. Within six months after the issue of a license, the selector must commence to occupy the land in any case where the condition of personal residence or the condition of occupation is imposed, and must thereafter continue to occupy it in the manner prescribed.

In the case of selections held by members of one family, and situated all within five miles of each other, the Land Commissioner may, by special license, permit the condition of personal residence or of occupation to be performed by the personal residence of all the selectors on one of the selections.

Selections subject to the condition of personal residence may be mortgaged to the Agricultural Bank.

Agricultural Farms.

Agricultural farms, suitable for dairying and general farming, may be taken up in areas up to 2,560 acres under personal residence conditions at prices ranging from 10s. per acre upwards, the payments therefor extending over 20 years. The annual rental is one-fortieth of the purchasing price. The area of a selection is notified at the time the land is thrown open; the maximum area is only available in remote districts.



Bergl Australia Limited Meatworks at Merinda, Bowen, North Queensland.

Perpetual Lease Selections.

The conditions of personal residence and improvements as prescribed for agricultural farms apply to selections under this mode. Rent for first period of 10 years, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the notified purchasing price of agricultural farms. The rent for each succeeding period of ten years is determined by Land Court.



Tomatoes Packed for Export on a Bowen Farm, North Queensland.

Agricultural Homesteads.

Maximum area, 320 acres; price, 2s. 6d. per acre; annual rent, 3d. per acre; terms, ten years. These areas are only available in remote localities.

Free Homesteads.

Maximum area, 160 acres; term, five years; personal residence conditions; improvements compulsory. These areas cannot be mortgaged or sold until a deed of grant is obtained by the selector, and are only available in remote localities.

Grazing Selections.

Maximum area, 60,000 acres; personal residence conditions; improvements compulsory; rent, from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per acre upwards; term of lease, not to exceed twenty-eight years. Annual rentals after first period of seven years are determined by Land Court.

Unconditional Selection.

Maximum area, 1,280 acres; price, from 13s. 4d. per acre upwards, payable in twenty annual instalments.

Prickly Pear Selections.

Maximum area, 2,560 acres; lease, twenty-five years, divided into two periods; peppercorn rental during first period, compulsory eradication of prickly pear, and payment of purchasing price and maintaining land free of pear during the second period.



Musterers on Strathmore Station, Bowen District, North Queensland.

In the case of badly infested land, it is optional for the Lands Department to offer a bonus to the selector for the clearing of the land, and, when freed from the pest, he is entitled to a deed of grant without any payment except the deed fees.

Closer Settlement.

Under the "Closer Settlement Act of 1906-13," agricultural areas may be taken up under the following terms and conditions:—Terms: Forty years at 5 per cent. per annum. Rent: First

year, equal to £10 for every £100 of purchasing price; no payment for second, third, and fourth years of the term. Conditions of occupation are the same as in the case of agricultural farms.

Selection by Aliens.

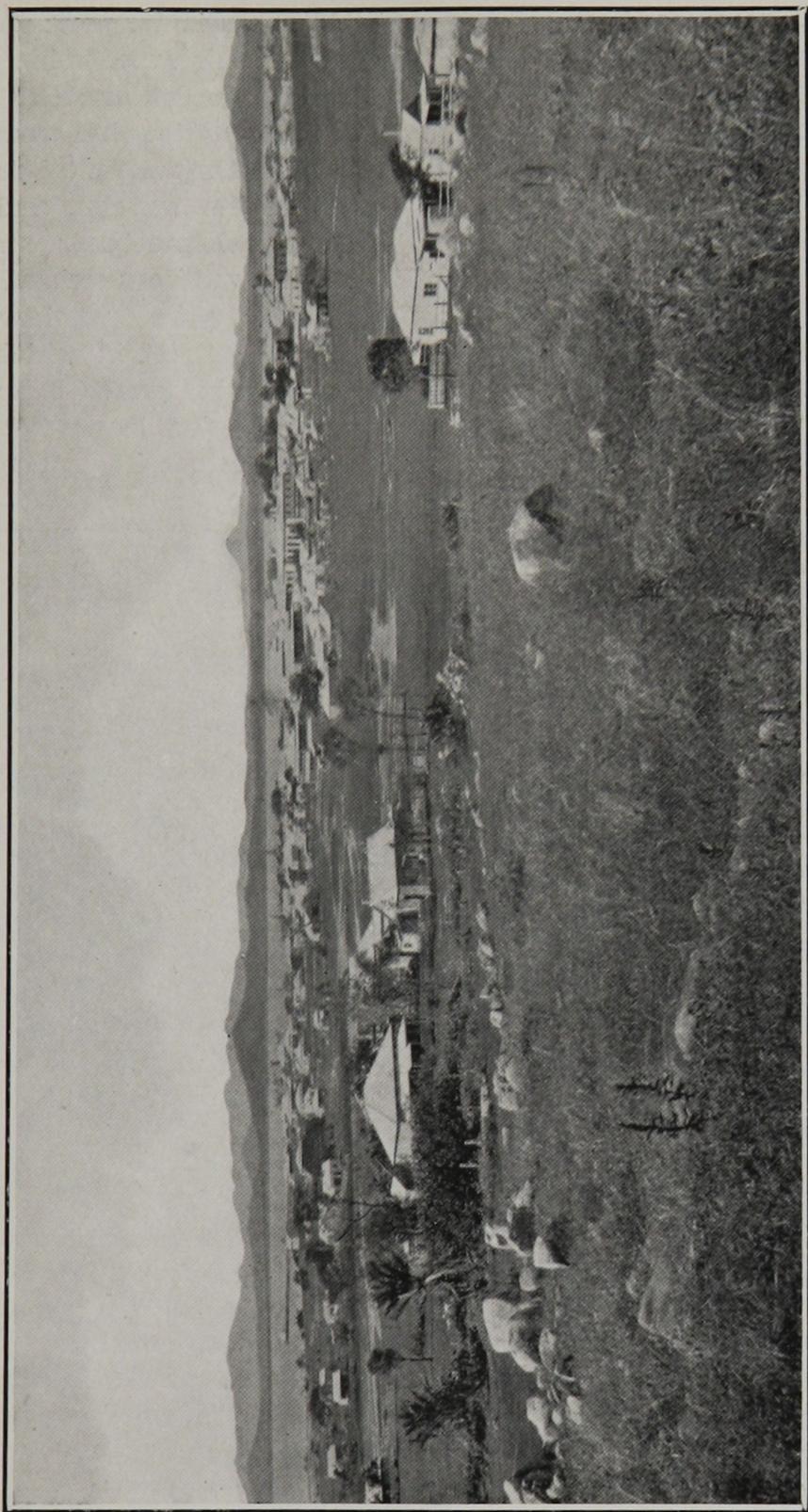
An alien (that is to say, an American, Swede, Italian, &c.) may, provided he obtains a certificate that he can read and write words in such language as the Minister for Lands may direct, acquire a selection, but, unless he becomes a naturalised subject of the King within five years thereafter, all his right, title, and interest in the land will become forfeited. An alien must live, at least, two years in the Commonwealth before he can become naturalised.



Mount Ben Lomond, from Rocky Beach, Sinclair Bay, Bowen Harbour.

Miners' Homestead Leases.

Under the provisions of "The Miners' Homestead Leases Act of 1913," homestead leases can be taken up by qualified persons on any mining field in the State as follows:—Within the boundaries of a town, 1 acre; within 1 mile radius, 20 acres; outside 1 mile radius, from 80 to 640 acres, the latter being the maximum area. During the first period of thirty years the



Panorama of Bowen and Harbour, North Queensland.

annual rental on homesteads up to 40 acres is 1s. per acre, and 6d. for any additional acreage in excess of this area. This rental does not apply to homesteads acquired by tender or sale. After the expiration of the thirty years' lease a nominal rental of 1s. only can be demanded. The minimum annual rental for any lease is 5s. On the recommendation of the warden, and with the approval of the Minister, leases of homesteads may, in certain areas, be tendered for or sold by public auction. They can also, with the approval of the Minister, be transferred by the lessee to a qualified resident of the district in which they are situated. The annual rentals are payable on or before the 31st December in each year. Applicants for leases must be qualified residents of the districts in which the homesteads are



Tobacco Plantation and Drying Shed, Bowen District,
North Queensland.

situated. Applications for leases made between the 1st January and 1st July must be accompanied by a year's rent, and those made between the 1st July and 1st January by half a year's rent. During the first period of thirty years, the lessee must keep the prescribed fences or improvements on the land in good order, keep the land clear of noxious weeds and plants, and in all cases where residence applies, occupy the land by the residence thereon of himself or some qualified person. The Minister may, however, grant the lessee exemption from the personal residence conditions for such time and on such terms as he thinks fit, and may make reservations and stipulations

in regard to the right of the lessee or anyone mining on the homestead to cut or destroy timber. The qualifications of aliens in respect to their becoming lessees are specifically defined in the regulations of the Act.

ASSISTANCE TO SETTLERS.

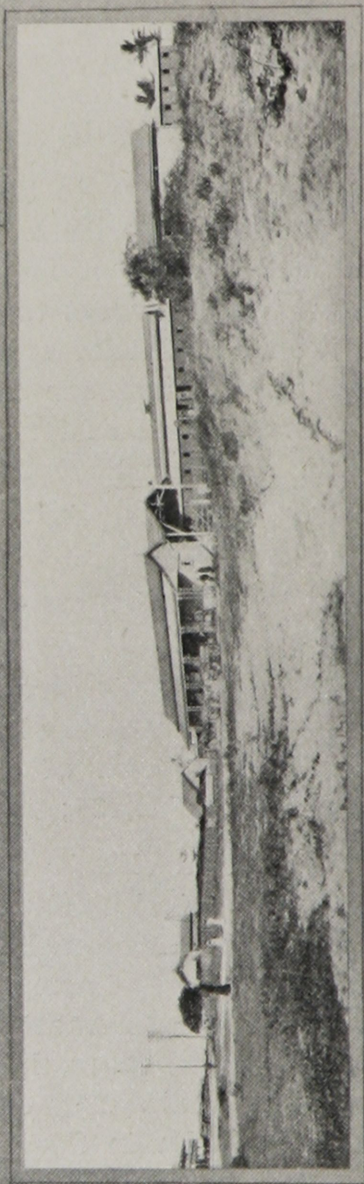
The Government issues to the intending settler desirous of inspecting Crown lands, with a view to selecting an area not greater than 5,120 acres, a railway ticket from the railway station in Queensland nearest to his home at half the ordinary fare. If the intending settler subsequently acquires a selection subject to personal residence conditions, and not exceeding 5,120 acres in area, the half-fare paid by him is refunded, and his family, self, ordinary household furniture and effects, agricultural implements, seed, one dray, and one set of harness, are carried free to the railway station nearest to his selection. The maximum area mentioned above is only available in remote districts.

The man on the land is also assisted to improve his homestead. Since the inauguration of the State Agricultural Bank in 1902, the loans to the end of June, 1914, were as follow:—Advances approved, £1,253,536; instalments paid, £851,600.

“The Agricultural Bank Act (Consolidated) of 1914,” provides for advances to holders of land held in fee-simple and used or about to be used bona fide for agricultural or dairying purposes, Agricultural Farms, Agricultural Homesteads, Grazing Farms, Grazing Homesteads, Unconditional Selections, or Mining Homestead Leases, held under Part VIII. of “The Mining Act of 1898”; also any other lands which the Governor in Council may, by Order in Council published in the “Gazette,” declare to be agricultural lands for the purpose of this Act.

Advances.

Advances (not exceeding £800, with 5 per cent. per annum added) are made for the following purposes:—Payment of liabilities already existing on the holding; purchase of stock, machinery, or implements; agricultural, dairying, grazing, horticultural, or viticultural pursuits on the holding, and adding to the improvements already made on the holding.



Two Bowen (North Queensland) Views.

1. Coconut Avenue on Esplanade.
2. Railway Station.

Advances for any of the following purposes, namely:—Buildings, ringbarking, clearing, fencing, draining, or water conservation, may be made of an amount not exceeding £200 to the full value of the improvements proposed to be made. Provided that, in the case of an advance being made for the purpose of freeing land from prickly pear, the managing director shall retain such proportion of the advance as he thinks proper, not exceeding one-half part thereof, for such period as he thinks proper, in order to secure the effective and permanent freeing of the land from prickly pear.



Bigg's Scrub, Proserpine District, North Queensland.

An advance at the rate of 13s. 4d. in the £ on the value of the land and improvements thereon may be made up to £200 for unspecified purposes.

After the execution of the necessary securities, applicants can receive their instalments of the advances while the work is proceeding, or in a lump sum on the completion of the improvements.

Repayment of Loans.

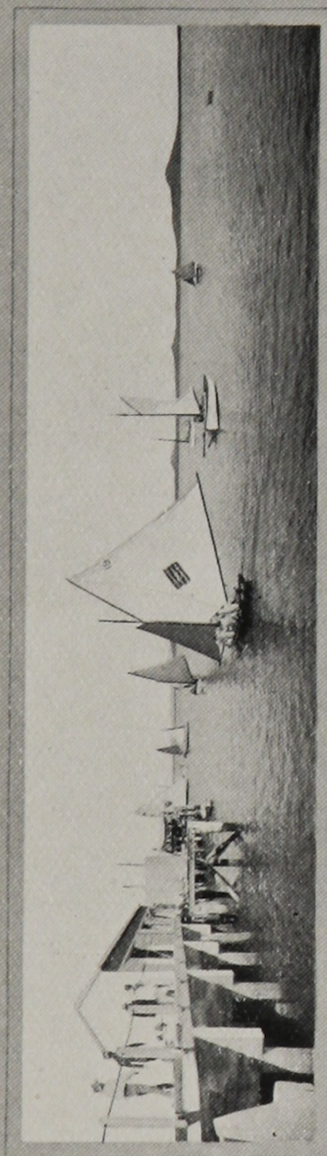
In cases where advances have been made for the purpose of payment of liabilities already existing on the holding, purchase of stock, machinery, or implements, the borrower shall, on the

first day of January or the first day of July, as the case may be, following the date of the advance, begin to redeem his advance, inclusive of interest, by payment of £4 0s. 3d. half-yearly for each £100 borrowed, until the whole has been paid; the first instalment of such repayment shall be due and payable on the 1st January or 1st July next ensuing after the advance was made. In cases where advances are made for the purpose of agri-



Orange Orchard on the Don River, Bowen, North Queensland.

cultural, dairying, grazing, horticultural, or viticultural pursuits on the holding, or for the purpose of effecting improvements or adding to those already made, loans may have a currency not exceeding twenty-five years. During the first five years simple interest only is payable. At the expiration of five years from the first day of January or the first day of July, as the case may be, following the date of the advance, the borrower shall begin to redeem his advance by payment of £4 0s. 3d. half-yearly for each £100 borrowed, inclusive of interest, until the whole has been paid: Provided always that the advance may be repaid sooner than is here provided, and in larger instalments.



1. Regatta in Bowen Harbour. 2. Southern Entrance to Long Island Passage.

IN CONCLUSION.

Having gazed upon the fairyland beauties of Whitsunday Passage and the arcadian charms of Bowen and Proserpine, the southern tourist returns to his home

“Fired with the views this tranquil scene displays,
And smit with passion for our country’s praise.”



Tropical Foliage on Palm Creek, Proserpine,
North Queensland.

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